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BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE      Sonatina, First Movement

*Dmitry Kabalevsky*

*Participating in today's service are: Ken Smee (coordinating greeter); Mary Ann Borden, Pat Brodie, Paul Colman, Donna Lang, Donna MacCandlish (greeters); Connie Capes-Leslie, Deborah Hart (liturgists); Alexa Gilmour (reader); Don Parsons (preacher); Stuart Hall, Ross Healy, Rob Crabtree, David Shaw, Lynnette Norris, Gail Horrick, Penny Wilkins, Stacey Weber, Lenore Walters, David Clemens, Willie Smee, Kathy Fletcher (communion servers); Laurie Denham, Patti Thompson (anointers); Judi Healy (sound); Peter Merrick and the Choir.*

The flowers in the chancel this morning are given  
in memory of Olive and Melville Pretty  
and their daughters Helen and Doris,  
by their son and brother, David

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January 31, 2010

**INVICTUS**

Out of the night that covers me,  
Black as the Pit from pole to pole,  
I thank whatever gods may be  
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance  
I have not winced nor cried aloud.  
Under the bludgeonings of chance  
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears  
Looms but the horror of the shade,  
And yet the menace of the years  
Finds, and shall find me, unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,  
How charged with punishments the scroll,  
I am the master of my fate:  
I am the captain of my soul.

*William Ernest Henley  
1849-1903*

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

# EGLINTON ST. GEORGE'S UNITED CHURCH

January 31, 10:30 a.m.

## THE FEAST OF CANDLEMAS

The congregation is invited to join in responses which are **bold**.

We are grateful for the gift of Russian music this morning.

### OPENING DOORS

PRELUDE Three Short Pieces *Pyotr Tchaikovsky*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT Come, let us worship *Sergei Rachmaninoff*

*Amen. O come, let us worship our King and our God. O come, let us worship, and kneel before Jesus, our King and our God.*

GATHERING *(The congregation stands as able.)*

God's word is a lamp to our feet,  
and a light to each path.

**That ancient truth reminds us that after receiving  
the blessing of Simeon and the praise of Anna,  
Jesus returned to Nazareth where he grew and became strong.  
He was filled with wisdom;  
and God's favour was upon him.**

With gratitude for that holy mystery,  
let us now offer our worship to God.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 304 O God, beyond all face and form *St. Petersburg*

OPENING PRAYER

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray: *(The congregation remains standing.)*

### OPENING DOORS

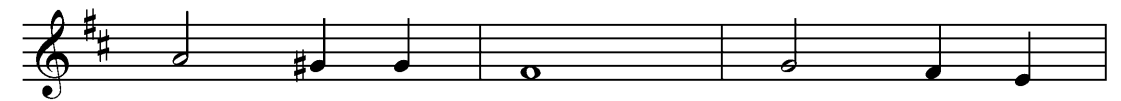
HYMN God the omnipotent *Russian Hymn*



God the Om - ni - po - tent! bold - ly or -  
God the All - mer - ci - full! earth has for -  
God the All - right - eous One! earth has de -  
God the All - prov - i - dent! by your great



dain - ing thun - der and light - ning your  
sak - en all you make ho - ly, and  
fied to you, yet e - ter - ni - ty  
chas - tening earth shall see free - dom and



strength to dis - play, bring forth com -  
slight - ed your way; Bid not your  
stands what you say; False - hood and  
truth hold - ing sway; Through the thick



pas - sion where vi - o - lence is reign - ing;  
wrath in its ter - rors a - wak - en;  
wrong shall not tar - ry be - side you;  
cha - os your reign is still has - tening;



give to us peace in our time, we pray.  
give to us peace in our time, we pray.  
give to us peace in our time, we pray.  
you will give peace in your time, we pray.

Words: St. 1-2, Henry F. Chornley, alt.  
St. 3-4, John Ellerton, alt.

Music: Alexis F. Lvov

In the pouring of this wine,  
**we remember the life-giving love of God poured out for all.**  
 The gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*(Those serving communion come forward.)*

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Otche Nash)

*Antony Arensky*

*(Sung by the Choir)*

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Come, for all things are now ready.

*(All are invited to receive communion by coming forward down the central aisles beginning from the front of the church, and proceeding to one of the stations. Bread will be received first; you are then invited to dip the bread in the cup. An appropriate response to receiving both the bread and juice is "Amen." Healing stations are available in both the east and west transepts. If you wish, you may go there for prayer and anointing with oil after having received the elements. Please return to your seats via the side aisles.)*

COMMUNION MOTET We sing to thee

*Pytor Tchaikovsky*

*We sing to thee great praise; we give thanks for thy grace evermore; we pray to thy name,  
 O Lord, our God.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray:

**Gracious God, source of all that is,  
 as you revealed to Simeon and Anna  
 your light that enlightens all nations,  
 nourish and strengthen our own faith.  
 Let your servants now depart in peace,  
 according to your word,  
 that we may share your love with one another,  
 and be a source of Christ's light for the whole family of earth;  
 in the Spirit of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

**God of compassion,  
 on this day your Holy Spirit revealed  
 your love made flesh to Simeon and Anna, elders in the faith.  
 Help us also to welcome your Son Jesus,  
 that he may be our light and our guide;  
 and that through us, his light might reach every corner  
 of this global village of earth. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

RESPONSE Alleluia Zagorsk

*Taizé*

*(Choir first in Old Slavonic, then all in English.)*

Al - li - lu - i - a, al - li - lu - i - a, al - li - lu - i - a,  
 Al - le - u - i - a, al - le - lu - i - a, al - le - lu - i - a,

*Slower*

sla - va tie - bie, Bo - zhe! A - li - lu - i - a,  
 glo - ry - be to you, Lord! A - le - lu - i - a,

a - li - lu - i - a, a - li - lu - i - a,  
 al - le - lu - i - a, a - le - lu - i - a,

sla - va tie - bie, Bo - - - zhe!  
 glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

*Words Russian Trad.*

*Music Taizé Community*

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*(The congregation is seated.)*

CANDLEMAS GOSPEL

Luke 2: 22-40

BLESSING OF CANDLES

Forty days ago we celebrated the joyful feast of the birth of Jesus. Today we recall his presentation in the temple, in which the Law of Moses was fulfilled, and after which Christ went forth to meet his faithful people. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized Jesus as their Lord, and proclaimed him with joy.

Let us pray:

Gracious God, source of all light, on this day you revealed to Simeon and Anna your Light of revelation to the nations. Bless these candles, that we who worship by their light may be light to the world, and may come at last to share in the light of your eternal glory. Through him who is the Light of the world, we pray. **Amen.**

*(Candlelight is shared with all while the Canticle is sung.)*

CANTICLE Nunc Dimittis *Sergei Rachmaninoff*

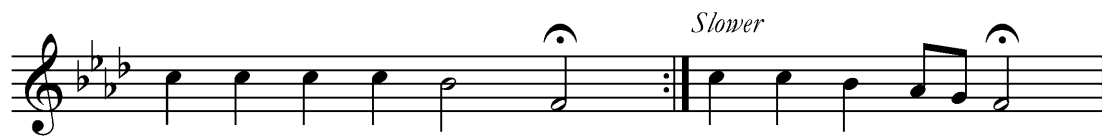
*Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, as you have promised. For with my own eyes I have seen your deliverance, which you have made ready in full view of the nations—a light enlightening the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel.*

As the shepherds heard the angel’s proclamation and rejoiced,  
**may we receive your good news with joy and thanksgiving.**  
As Anna and Simeon recognized you in the temple,  
**may we see you in the faces of all we meet.**  
As Jesus grew and became strong and wise,  
**may we grow in wisdom and wonder and joy. Amen.**

RESPONSE Alleluia Zagorsk *Taizé*  
*(Choir first in Old Slavonic, then all in English.)*



Al - li - lu - i - a, al - li - lu - i - a, al - li - lu - i - a,  
Al - le - u - i - a, al - le - lu - i - a, al - le - lu - i - a,



sla - va tie - bie, Bo - zhe! A - li - lu - i - a,  
glo - ry - be to you, Lord! A - le - lu - i - a,

*off earthly care. Amen. Glory be to God in the highest: with the angelic host we worship thee and praise thee. Alleluia!*

Loving God, in Jesus we recognize the fullness of your grace; light, life and love revealed for all your people everywhere. We remember that on the eve of his death Jesus came to the table with his friends, took bread, thanked you as we have thanked you, broke the bread, and shared it with his disciples saying, “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Each time you do this, remember me.”

After the meal, he took a cup of wine, thanked you for it, and passed it to his friends, saying: “Drink this, all of you; this is the cup of the new covenant, the sign of God’s love for you. Each time you do this, remember me.”

Generous God, we offer you these gifts – grain and grape – remembering Jesus’ life and death, celebrating his resurrection, awaiting with hope your coming again to bring peace with justice to all the nations. Great is the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

We open ourselves to you, God of light, and life, and love; asking you to send your Holy Spirit among us, that we and these gifts of bread and cup spread before you now may become the incarnation of your love, peace, and justice in our world.

**Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory is yours,  
God most holy, now and forever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND POURING OF THE CUP

We break the bread of life,  
**and that life is the light of our world.**

OFFERTORY HYMN 467

One bread, one body

*One Bread, One Body*

*(The congregation remains seated for the singing of this hymn,  
and then stands as the offering and Communion Gifts are brought forward.)*

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(The congregation remains standing.)*

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us centre ourselves in God, the source of life.

**We open our hearts in prayer.**

Let us offer our thanks to God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Holy God, creator of light and love,

how great and gracious you are.

At your word creation dawned.

By the light of your promise

you accompanied your people across the desert and through the night.

Through the light of your peace

you claim us as your beloved, and joy is our banquet.

**We praise you, God of light.**

We give you thanks that you make manifest your glory:

placing a child in Mary's womb and a star in the eastern sky.

You sent us Jesus to be a light to all the nations.

He brought sight to the blind, and healing to the sick,

hope to the despairing, and justice to the oppressed.

**We praise you, God of light.**

Even though we rejected him, you brought light out of darkness,

banishing through Christ the shadows of sin and death.

Therefore, together with all creation, we sing your praise:

*(The congregation may be seated.)*

CHERUBIC HYMN

*Mikhail Glinka*

*Let us join our voices with the angels: holy, holy, holy, Lord of hosts. Blessed Trinity, we praise thee,  
as we sing our thrice-holy hymn to thee. Now as we draw near thy throne of grace, let our hearts cast*



a - li - lu - i - a, a - li - lu - i - a,  
al - le - lu - i - a a - le - lu - i - a,



sla - va tie - bie, Bo - - - zhe!  
glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

*Words Russian Trad.*

*Music Taižé Community*

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*(The candles are extinguished and the children leave for Church School.)*

## OPENING MINDS

HEBREW SCRIPTURE Jeremiah 1: 4-10

This is the witness of God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Reel Theology #1 "Invictus"

HYMN 678 For the healing of the nations

*Westminster Abbey*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

## OPENING HEARTS

INVITATION

THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(The congregation is invited to share signs of Peace with their neighbours.)*

OFFERING OF OUR LIFE AND WORK