

*St Anne's Eastville*  
*Order of Service for Candlemas*  
*Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026*

*All gather in the hall. All are given an order of service and a candle.*

*Welcome and short introduction.*

*Confession:* When we are enslaved, Lord, set us free.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

When we are impure, Lord, make us clean.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

When we are in darkness, Lord give us light.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

The God of all wonder + pour the light of forgiveness  
into our hearts, our lives, our world;  
and restore in us the image of his glory,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Incense is put on and blessed.*

*Candles are lit, while the choir sings* (chant from Kiev)

Lord, you have set your servant free  
to go in peace as you have promised,  
for these eyes of mine have seen the Saviour  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
a light to enlighten the nations,  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. **Amen.**

*All hold up their lighted candles for blessing:*

God, source of everlasting light,  
bless, we pray, these candles,  
pour into our hearts the brilliance of your eternal splendour,  
and set our church alight with your glory.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. **Amen.**

*The candles are sprinkled and incensed. The priest sings:*

Let us proceed in peace. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*All process to the church (outside if possible) singing*

**Of the Father's heart begotten  
ere the world from chaos rose,  
he is Alpha: from that Fountain,  
all that is and hath been flows;  
he is Omega, of all things  
yet to come the mystic Close,  
evermore and evermore.**

**By his word was all created;  
he commanded and 'twas done;  
earth and sky and boundless ocean,  
universe of three in one,  
all that sees the moon's soft radiance,  
all that breathes beneath the sun,  
evermore and evermore.**

O how blest that wondrous birthday,  
when the maid the curse retrieved,  
brought to birth the world's salvation,  
by the Holy Ghost conceived;  
and the babe, our great redeemer,  
in her loving arms received,

This is he, whom seer and sybil  
sang in ages long gone by;  
this is he of old revealèd  
in the page of prophecy;  
lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;  
let the world his praises cry!  
evermore and evermore.

Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;  
Angels and Archangels, sing!  
wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,  
let your joyous anthems ring,  
every tongue his name confessing,  
countless voices answering,  
evermore and evermore.

Let the storm and summer sunshine,  
gliding stream and sounding shore  
sea and forest, frost and zephyr,  
day and night their Lord adore.  
Let creation join to laud thee  
through the ages evermore,  
*evermore and evermore.*

*The altar is incensed.*

*Collect:* 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.**

*1<sup>st</sup> Reading:* Malachi 3.1-5

*Gradual Hymn:*

**Like a candle flame, flickering small in our darkness.  
Uncreated light shines through infant eyes.  
*God is with us, alleluia; come to save us, alleluia; alleluia!***

**Stars and angels sing, yet the earth sleeps in shadows.  
Can this tiny spark set a world on fire? *God is with us....***

**Yet his light shall shine from our lives, Spirit blazing  
as we touch the flame of his holy fire. *God is with us...***

*Gospel:* Luke 2.22-40

*Sermon - Intercessions*

## *The Peace*

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high has broken upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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

## *Offertory Hymn:*

**Ye who own the faith of Jesus  
sing the wonders that were done,  
when the love of God the Father  
o'er our sin the victory won,  
when he made the Virgin Mary  
Mother of his only Son.**

***Hail Mary, hail Mary, hail Mary full of grace.***

**Blessèd were the chosen people  
out of whom the Lord did come,  
blessèd was the land of promise  
fashioned for his earthly home;  
but more blessèd far the Mother  
she who bare him in her womb.    *Hail Mary...***

**Wherefore let all faithful people  
tell the honour of her name,  
let the church in her foreshadowed  
part in her thanksgiving claim;  
what Christ's Mother sang in gladness  
let Christ's people sing the same.    *Hail Mary,***

**Let us weave our supplications,  
she with us and we with her,  
for the advancement of the faithful,  
for each faithful worshipper,  
for the doubting, for the sinful,  
for each heedless wanderer.    *Hail Mary,***

**May the Mother's intercessions  
on our homes a blessing win,  
that the children all be prospered,  
strong and fair and pure within,  
following our Lord's own footsteps,  
firm in faith and free from sin.    *Hail Mary,***

**For the sick and for the aged,  
for our dear ones far away,  
for the hearts that mourn in secret,  
all who need our prayers today,  
for the faithful gone before us,  
may the holy Virgin pray.    *Hail Mary,***

**Praise, O Mary, praise the Father,  
praise thy Saviour and thy Son,  
praise the everlasting Spirit,  
who hath made thee ark and throne;  
o'er all creatures high exalted,  
lowly praise the Three in One.    *Hail Mary,***

### *Prayer over the gifts*

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.**

### *The Eucharistic Prayer*

The Lord is here.

**God's 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.**

Father, you made the world and love your creation.  
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.  
His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.

And now we give you thanks  
because your eternal Word took our nature upon him  
in the womb of Mary the Virgin.  
The sword of sorrow pierced her heart  
when he was lifted high on the cross,  
and by his sacrifice displayed your love for us..

And so we gladly thank you,  
with saints and angels praising you, and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.  
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with Mary, Joseph, Simeon, Anna and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Let us pray to the Father in the words our Saviour has given us.

**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;  
and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*At the Breaking of the Bread:*

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

**God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

*All sing:*

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, give us your peace.**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

*At Communion the choir sings (Venezuelan carol)*

*Child so lovely, here I kneel before you,  
child so lovely, you are Christ, my God.  
Child so lovely, here I kneel before you,  
child so lovely, you are Christ, the Lord.*

You have heaven's beauty, and God's purity,  
stealing my devotion, stealing my affection,  
stealing all my soul.

All my life, my darling, this is what I offer,  
offer joyously, falling at your feet.

*Prayer after Communion:*

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,  
who lived to welcome the Messiah:  
may we, who have received these gifts beyond words,  
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The Blessing is given:*

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
fill you with radiance  
and scatter the darkness from your path. **Amen.**

Christ, the Sun of Righteousness,  
gladden your eyes and warm your heart. **Amen.**

Christ, the Dayspring from on high,  
draw near to guide your feet into the way of peace. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the light and peace of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn for going out:*

**O Mary most holy, you brought forth God's Son;  
your joy is the joy of all ages to come.**

***Ave, ave, ave Maria, Ave, ave, ave Maria.***

**To you, by an angel, the Father made known  
the grace of his Spirit, the gift of his Son.**

**Your child is the Saviour, all hope lies in him:  
he gives us new life and redeems us from sin.**

**In glory for ever now close to your Son,  
all ages will praise you for what God has done.**