

Call to and Prayer of Confession

God of today and tomorrow,
We know
That your fingerprints are all over this world. And we know
That those who dream cannot keep silent.
So today we pray,
Give us eyes to see you.
Give us courage to trust you.
And give us lips to speak of you in our midst. Gratefully we
pray,
Amen.

Words of Assurance

Grateful Living

Ephesians 5:8-14

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light.

Gloria Patri

God's Word is Proclaimed

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:22-40

Sermon: Rev. Kendra VanHouten

"Those who Dream will not keep silent"

The Church Responds to God

The Apostles Creed

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father
almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the
dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our
debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.***

Benediction

those who dream... will not keep silent | Luke 2:22-40

You know that feeling when you fall in love? Time-stands-still and moves too fast.

*You'd give up sleep just to talk all night,
Because there's so much to say and not enough time.*

*It's that full to the brim, Over the stars,
Living is dreaming, Too-good-to-be-true Kind of feeling?*

I imagine that's how Simeon and Anna felt When they saw Jesus that day.

*I imagine it was that full to the brim,
Over the stars,*

*Living is dreaming, Too-good-to-be-true
Good news kind of feeling.*

I imagine it was love.

And I imagine that that good, good news Swelled to the tip of their tongues

Until they could not keep silent.

So may we know what Simeon and Anna knew, Which is that some dreams we hold close to our chest, For ourselves to cherish and never forget.

*But other dreams must be spoken out loud—
Dreams of justice and love and hope, here and now.*

So today my prayer is to know that swell, For there is good, good news

That we must tell.

***The liturgy, poem written by Sarah Are, and artwork are taken from Sanctified Art.com Advent Worship Series**



THOSE
WHO
DREAM

**Sunday after Christmas
December 27, 2020**

The Poinsettias at the front of the Sanctuary you see on the screen are in memory and honor of the ones who are listed in the Christmas Eve booklet. We give thanks to God for each one listed and the families who share their loved one's names

God Gathers the Church

Gathering Music & Welcome

Call to Worship

Here on the heels of Christmas,

We speak of love.

We speak of joy.

We speak of candle light and fireside.

We speak of dreams being fulfilled.

We speak of "glorias" and angel choruses.

We speak the words, "Do not be afraid."

Here on the heels of Christmas, We are called to speak, for the world needs a light.

A light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.

Let us worship and listen. Then, let us speak. Amen.

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.
For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Luke 2:22-40

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."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.