

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE:

# CANDLEMAS

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5, 2023 AT 9:00 A.M.

The Church of the Redeemer: 162 Bloor St. West, Toronto, ON M5S 1M4

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# WELCOME TO THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER!

We are in the heart of downtown Toronto, and we gather to celebrate on the traditional lands of the Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Anishinaabe Nations, including the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Our beautiful building connects us to the rich heritage of our city while also drawing us deeper into the roots of our Anglican tradition. Just as the streetscape around us has evolved over the years, our members have changed to reflect the growing, vibrant and progressive Christian community found at the Redeemer today. We come from a variety of faith traditions (and sometimes no faith tradition at all), and we like it that way. We are students, workers, retired, homeless, not limited by sexual orientation, gender identity or personal history. We are at the very beginning of our life with Jesus, and we are deeply steeped in a life complicated by faith. We open our doors to worship God and to learn about Jesus, and how all of this might just transform our lives.

If you would like to stay up to date with our news and events, please feel free to subscribe to our eNewsletter by going to <u>theredeemer.ca/newsletters</u>.

theredeemer.ca facebook.com/TheRedeemerTO instagram.com/TheRedeemerTO



**OFFERTORY** — If you would like to make a monetary donation to support the ministry of Church of the Redeemer, we invite you to visit <u>theredeemer.ca/donate</u> via the QR code above.

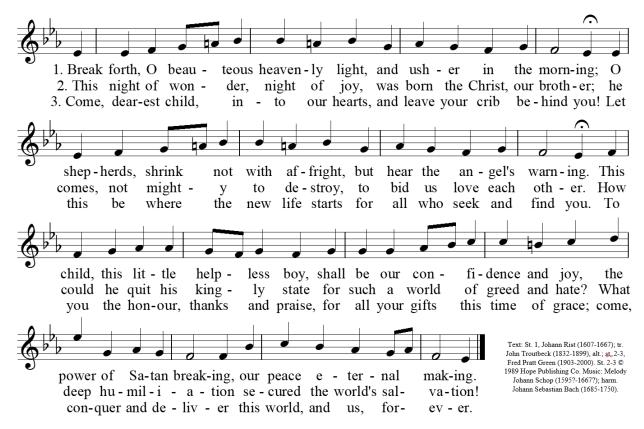
Thank you for joining us today.

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

Moderator

# **Opening Hymn:** #147 (Common Praise) "Break forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light" *Redeemer Music Team*



# The Gathering of the Community

- *Priest:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.
- People: And also with you.

# The Blessing of Candles

*Priest:* Jesus Christ is the Light of the World. Alleluia!*People:* A light no darkness can extinguish. Alleluia!

Andrew Kuhl

*Priest:* Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts in the face of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him you give light to the world; in him, you kindle your light in our lives, by him we are guided on the paths of righteousness. Bless with your Holy Spirit these candles, that they may be to us signs of your grace in times of darkness. Enkindle in us the true faith that led Simeon to recognize you and the holy joy that led Anna to praise your name; this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Light and our Redeemer.

People: Amen.

# The Collect of the Day

Andrew Kuhl

Priest: God of love, you gave your Son to be a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.
With Simeon and Anna and all who hail redemption's happy dawn, may we sing your praise and proclaim salvation in Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. Amen.

# ✤ The Proclamation of the Word

# **First Reading**

Reader: A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord. *People:* Thanks be to God.

Malachi 3.1-4 A moment of silence is observed

Heather Bennett

Psalm 84 (George Black)

**Refrain:** 



How dear to me is your dwelling, O God of hosts! My soul has a desire and longing for your courts; my heart and my flesh rejoice in you, O living God. **Refrain** 

The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; by the side of your altars, O God of hosts, my God who reigns over me. **Refrain** 

Happy are they who dwell in your house! they will always be praising you. Happy are the people whose strength is in you! whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way. **Refrain** 

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water. They will climb from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion. O God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob. **Refrain** 

Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your anointed. For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked. **Refrain** 

You, God, are both sun and shield, you will give grace and glory. No good thing will you withhold from those who walk with integrity. O God of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you! **Refrain** 

# **Second Reading**

Reader: A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

*Reader:* The word of the Lord. *People:* Thanks be to God.

Hebrews 2.14-18 A moment of silence is observed

Sequence Hymn: #88 (Common Praise) "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"



Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: Melody Psalmodia Sacra, Gotha, 1715; harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.; desc. John W. Wilson (1905-1992). Desc. © 1983 Hope Publishing Co.

# The Gospel

Susan Haig

- *Reader:* The Lord be with you.
- All: And also with you.

*Reader:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.*All:* Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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 turtle-doves 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 for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped 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 favour of God was upon him.

Reader:	The Gospel of Christ.	Luke 2.22-40
All:	Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.	
Homily		Steven Mackison
	We pause for music and meditation	
Meditat	ion: "Song of Simeon"	Redeemer Music Team
The Prayers of the People		Anne Gircys
Leader:	Let us pray to the Father through Christ our light and life.	
	Holy One, your Christ is acclaimed as the glory of Israel: look in mercy on your Church, sharing his light	

Lord, have mercy.

- All: Lord, have mercy.
- Leader: Holy One, your Christ in the Temple brings judgement on the world: look in mercy on the nations who long for his justice ... Lord, have mercy.
- All: Lord, have mercy.
- Leader: Holy One, your Christ, who was rich, for our sake became poor: look in mercy on all who are in need and those who suffer with him ... Lord, have mercy.
- All: Lord, have mercy.
- *Leader:* Holy One, your Christ is the one in whom faithful servants find their peace: look in mercy on the whole Church, which glories in your salvation ... Lord, have mercy.
- All: Lord, have mercy.
- Leader: Holy One, your Christ is the one destined for rejection: look in mercy on us as we turn towards his passion. Lord, have mercy.
- All: Lord, have mercy.

The leader pauses to allow us to offer our own prayers, silently, aloud or in the chat box

Leader: Almighty Father, you kept faith with Simeon and Anna, and showed them the infant King. Give us grace to trust your promises, and patience to wait for their fulfilment; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

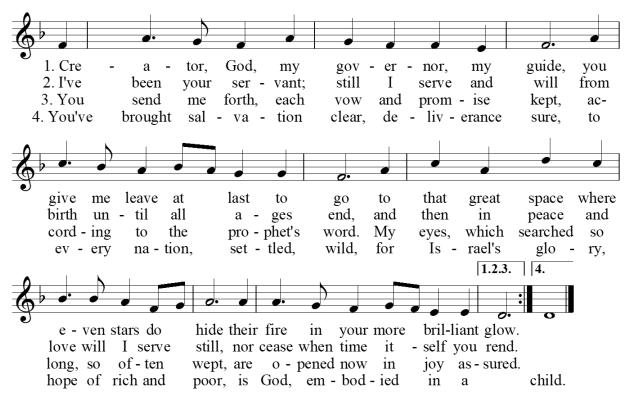
All: Amen.

# The Peace

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

Hymn: #18 (Sing a New Creation) "Creator, God"

Redeemer Music Team



Text: Sue Elwyn, SSJD, 2002. Music: SEBASTIAN. ADAPT. from DRESDEN (English Hymnal); harm. J.S. Bach, by Thelma-Anne McLeod, SSJD, 2002. Text and music © 2002 The Sisterhood of St. John the Divine.

# The Lord's Prayer

Andrew Kuhl

Priest: As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.
All: 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.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

# The Giving and Receiving of Communion

*Priest:* Dear friends, I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be, to receive Christ, in communion with the saints, and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now.

For those of us participating at home, it is a strange experience to be invited to Communion – not through the physical bread and wine we can touch and taste – but a Spiritual Communion with the God who comes to meet us wherever we are.

There are no special words or prayers for this, all the Church has ever thought necessary is genuine true desire, lively faith, and genuine love. Come honestly before God the way you know how. You may wish to pray quietly this prayer to help you:

One: Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock.
You wait for me and only I can let you in.
I believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill me with your presence.
Feed me with your body and unite me in your blood,
that I may be your blessing to a world in need. Amen.

# The Doxology

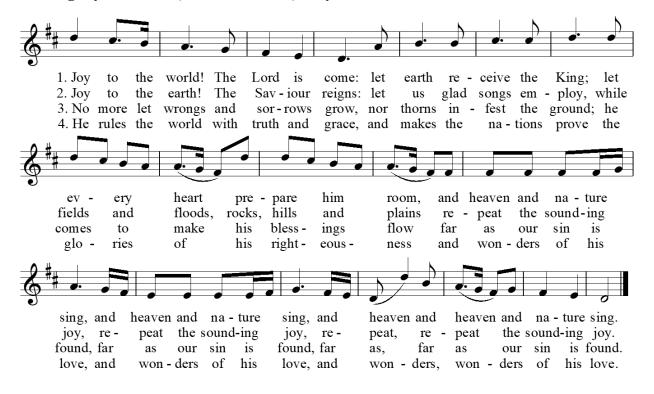
Andrew Kuhl

Priest: Glory to God,

All: whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Announcements

Closing Hymn: #154 (Common Praise) "Joy to the World"



#### The Dismissal

Susan Haig

# *Priest:* Go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia!

# People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Our thanks go out to all who contribute financially to the Redeemer community. Our ability to continue to offer outreach support through the Common Table and maintain our rich and varied worship and program life is possible thanks to the generous donations of parishioners and friends of the community. For health and safety reasons, we would appreciate your donations via the "Online Donation" link below, where you will be redirected to the gifts section of our Website. Thank you for your generosity.

#### **Online Donation**

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# **Ministry Updates**

#### **Mask-wearing**

The diocese is strongly recommending as much as possible that we all wear a mask when in indoor settings, including our church building.

#### **Advisory Board and Board of Management**

Each February at Vestry, the meeting where the congregation approves our objectives and annual budget, people are elected to fill vacancies on our two boards. The Advisory Board provides input and guidance to Redeemer's ministries, programs, and activities. The Board of Management oversees and assists with administrative and financial operations. This renewal process is vital for Redeemer. If you are interested in finding out how to share your time and talents by serving on a board, please <u>contact Richard Van Delft</u> (AdvisoryBoard@theredeemer.ca) or <u>contact David</u> <u>Burt</u> (ManagementBoard@theredeemer.ca), the chair of each of the boards.

#### **Pre-Vestry Meetings - Save the Date**

As is tradition, pre-vestry meetings will be held on **Sunday, February 12** and **Sunday, February 19** at 2 PM on Zoom. Information about the budget and other matters that will be coming before Vestry will be shared and there will be time to ask questions. The Zoom links will be shared in eNews in the week before each meeting.

#### **Annual Vestry Meeting**

The annual Vestry meeting will be on Sunday, February 26 at 2 PM on Zoom.

**Please** <u>register</u> prior to the meeting. You will be asked to register with your name and email address as well as to indicate the number of voting members who are joining the meeting on your connection. If there will be more than one voting member, you will be asked for their name(s). This will help us record attendance without the benefit of passing signature sheets on clipboards around the church. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Details for those who join by phone will be shared shortly.

# Worship and Spirituality

#### **During the Week**

#### **Mid-day Prayer**

Members of our community gather for mid-day prayer **Monday through Saturday** on Zoom at **12:15 PM**. For about 20 minutes we pause to hear scripture read and to pray for what's on our hearts and for the cares and concerns of the world. The Zoom link and list of readings are sent out each week through eNews. The order of service is <u>on our</u> website (theredeemer.ca).

#### **Tuesday Meditation**

Tuesday Meditation with Lilian Junkin gathers for 30 minutes in the chancel at **12:15 PM** for a peaceful mid-week reflection. If you have any other questions, please contact Lilian (<u>lilian.n.junkin@gmail.com</u>).

#### **Prayer on Wednesday**

Each Wednesday morning, a simple order for daily prayer is added to the parish website with a link shared on the Facebook page. This is an invitation to set aside time during the day to read scripture, to reflect and to offer prayers. The order of service for this coming Wednesday will be posted on the <u>website</u> (theredeemer.ca).

#### **On Sunday**

#### Children, Youth and Families

We have resources available in church for children and specific resources for Youth. All families are invited to participate in worship together. Please find these resources in the back pew on the west side of the church!

Our regular Church School and Youth Group gatherings have returned. Church School happens during 10:30 service. Children are invited to go downstairs after the collect with our Church School Volunteers for a 30 minute lesson, returning at the Eucharist.

Youth Group is happening on alternating weeks with Youth participating in worship on other weeks. Youth Group is gathering **today at 10:30 AM**. Weeks when youth are in worship, please feel free to use some of the Youth Resources available, and if you would like to sit together with Finn and Tom in the east transept you are very welcome!

If you have children or youth who are school aged, feel free to contact Andrew Kuhl to get on our contact list for up to date information! If you are a family with young children interested in programming for young families, please contact Andrew Kuhl (<u>akuhl@theredeemer.ca</u>).

#### **Floral Dedications**

Floral dedications provide a wonderful way to express our personal thanksgiving and remembrances. If you would like to provide chancel flowers, please email the necessary information to the church office (office@theredeemer.ca).

Prices range from \$200 for chancel flowers if there is only one dedication on a Sunday, or \$100 if there are multiple dedications.

#### Intercessions

In the prayers of the people each Sunday, space is left for members of the community to add a name or concern. If you have people or situations that you would like included but are not comfortable giving voice to them, there is a <u>prayer request form</u> on the website (theredeemer.ca). These will be offered silently by one of the priests during the appropriate petition of the intercessions.

# **Our Common Life**

#### Zoom Coffee and Conversation

After the services, the connection on Zoom will be kept open for a post-service coffee time. We will pause for about five minutes to allow time to grab a cup of coffee, tea or a cool beverage and return for a time of conversation.

#### Coffee Time at the Church

Coffee and cookies are available **before** the 10:30 service. Why not arrive early for conversation over coffee or tea until 10:20? All who attend worship services in the church building are also invited to linger for a time of conversation and coffee in the narthex – the space at the back of the church – immediately following the service.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### **Newcomers Lunch**

**Today** we will have a Newcomers' Lunch after the 10.30 service. This will be an opportunity for those who consider themselves new to the Redeemer to gather together and share some refreshments and fellowship. There will be an opportunity to ask the leadership questions. As a way to enter into dialogue, for those who are willing to share, come prepared to answer the following questions:

What brought you to the Redeemer? What keeps you here? What would you like to see at Redeemer that you don't see now? While this is focused on Newcomers, all are welcome!

# Lent at Redeemer

#### Catechesis 2023

Catechesis (noun): a program of religious instruction, preparing a person for baptism, confirmation or renewal of baptismal vows. Often formatted around a series Questions and Answers.

Coming for Lent our annual Catechesis program where we explore what it means to be an Anglican and what it means to be Christian today. This program will journey through Lent and can help prepare you to mark a faith transition (maybe new, deepening, or growing). Details are coming together and more will be shared in the coming weeks.

If you are interested in baptism, confirmation, reception into the Anglican Church, or renewal of baptismal vows, or just want to come along for the learning journey, keep an eye on this space or <u>email Andrew Kuhl</u> (<u>akuhl@theredeemer.ca</u>) for more details.

#### **Pancake Tuesday**

Save the date!

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday**, **February 21**, (the day before Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent), as it is typically a day for feasting with pancakes! We are dreaming up ideas and possibilities for ways we can celebrate together. Keep your eyes out for announcements for our plans.

#### Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World

Redeemer Explorers and Creation Matters invite you to join us as we read Katherine Hayhoe's accessible but challenging book, Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World. We'll use our discussions together as a Lenten practice of self-examination and reflection on the choices we make from day to day. Weekly groups will, begin the week of February 26. For full details <u>visit the Redeemer Explorers page</u> on the website.

Please register for the Sunday sessions at the church or the Wednesday group on Zoom.

#### Lent Bible Study with Bible Remixed

Join Dr Sylvia Keesmaat for a six-week Zoom bible study **Dreaming of the New Earth: Reading Revelation with Hope** on Sunday evenings from February 26 to April 2 at 7 PM.

The wild symbolism and imagery of the book of Revelation has provided fertile ground for equally wild interpretations of the future.

Deep down, however, this is a book of hope: hope for a new earth, a new kind of city, and a new Community in the face of a world that has been turned upside down. As such, it may be the perfect word of hope for our own unsettled times.

For more information, visit the Bible Remixed website (https://www.bibleremixed.ca).

#### Lent Resource

If you are looking for a Lent resource to use at home, Kate Bowler's **Bless the Lent we Actually Have** guides may be helpful. To learn more and download the guides which offer 40 daily prompts to reflect, pray and bless our imperfect days, <u>visit her website</u> (https://katebowler.com).

### **Refugee Settlement Committee**

They're here! Abdikadir, Asho, and their family arrived on January 26, after a journey from Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya, through Nairobi, then flying to Istanbul, and finally on a long flight to Toronto. They have begun settling in to their new home, and the boys are excited about the snow, but not the cold. Through your generous donations, we've provided them with warm jackets to deal with the Canadian winter. Thank you for supporting Redeemer's refugee settlement ministry in this and many other ways.

#### **Updated needs:**

Is there a barber in the house? Or a hair cutting kit and cape?

We're still looking for laundry drying racks; this family of eight will need more than one.

Please contact Susanna Jacob (andorrajosej@gmail.com) if you can help.

If you'd like to make a **financial contribution** to welcoming this family to Canada, you can <u>donate through</u> <u>CanadaHelps</u> and the Welcome Abdikadir and Family to Canada campaign page. CanadaHelps will provide an immediate tax receipt.

We'll provide ongoing updates about the family's new life in Canada, and let you know about opportunities to help welcome them to their new country.

### In the Community

#### **The Beatles Story**

Dr Mike Daley, our assistant director of music, presents the story of The Beatles. He performs their classic songs with Jill Daley, Greg Wyard, and Joe Power at the Church of the Redeemer on **Sunday, February** 12 at 7:30 PM. Tickets are available on <u>Eventbrite</u>.

### **Indigenous Solidarity Working Group**

#### The Spirit Garden

The parishes of the Diocese of Toronto are responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Call to Action #82. It calls for the installation of Residential School Monuments in each provincial capital. The **Spirit Garden** at Toronto City Hall will be a place for teaching, learning, sharing and healing, especially for school groups. Please watch Bishop Asbil's call at <u>https://fb.watch/cCKff5EAbP/</u> and a 'fly-through' of the project at <u>https://www.councilfire.ca/spirit-garden.html</u>.

You can donate here: toronto.anglican.ca & clicking "Spirit Garden". Thank you from your ISWG.

#### Meet the Authors Postponed

We regret that the opportunity to meet Douglas Sanderson (Amo Binashii) and Andrew Stobo Sniderman, the authors of *Valley of the Birdtail: An Indian Reserve, a White Town and the Road to Reconciliation* yesterday had to be postponed. One of the authors wasn't available this weekend. As soon as the rescheduled date is finalized, we will post that information.

### **Parish Resources**

#### **Interim Administrator On-Site**

Susan Graham Walker, the Part-time Interim Administrator, is on-site most Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:30 AM to 12 PM. Please don't hesitate to connect by email (<u>sgwalker@theredeemer.ca</u>) or text (647-215-8814).

#### How Are You Doing?

Our clergy are available to meet with you to talk and for prayer as is helpful to you. You can contact them through the church office (416-922-4948) or by email (Steven Mackison – <u>smackison@theredeemer.ca</u>, Susan Haig – <u>shaig@theredeemer.ca</u>, Andrew Kuhl <u>akuhl@theredeemer.ca</u>).

#### **Pastoral Care Calls**

Volunteers from the pastoral care team continue to call members of the Redeemer community to check in with them. Please contact Tony Crosbie (<u>tony.crosbie@sympatico.ca</u>) if you know someone who would benefit from a call from one of the pastoral care team.

### **WORSHIP WITH US**

#### Sunday, February 12 (Proper 6A)

9 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

10:30 AM – Holy Eucharist (in the Church and through YouTube)

**8 PM** – Compline (on Zoom only)

Sunday, February 19 (Transfiguration Sunday)

9 AM – Spiritual Communion (on Zoom only)

**10:30** AM – Holy Eucharist (in the Church and through YouTube)

**8 PM** – Compline (on Zoom only)