



2026 - 'Following Jesus on Mission'

'Epiphany 4' - 1st February 2026—Presentation of Christ

Please join us for our service live on YouTube at 10:00am.

Visit: www.youtube.com/@stlawrencewithstpaullongridge/streams

The Welcome & introduction

*Please follow the order of service
from the Gold booklet.*

Opening Hymn

Hail to the Lord's Anointed,

Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.

He comes with succour speedy
To those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth,
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,
Spring in his path to birth:
Before him on the mountains
Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.

Kings shall bow down before him,
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore him,
His praise all people sing:
To him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious,
He on his throne shall rest;
From age to age more glorious,
All-blessing and all-blest:
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand for ever,
His changeless name of Love.

J. MONTGOMERY (1771 - 1854)

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.**

First Reading

Malachi 3 : 1-5

¹ "I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the LORD Almighty.

² But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap.

³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴ and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

⁵ “So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud labourers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice, but do not fear me,” says the LORD Almighty.

⁶ “I the LORD do not change.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,

Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph o’er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by thee;
Joyless is the day’s return,
Till thy mercy’s beams I see
’Till they inward light impart,
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine,
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

C. WESLEY (1707 - 88)

Gospel Reading

Luke 2 : 22 — 40

Alleluia, Alleluia,

Christ was revealed in the flesh,
proclaimed among the nations and
believed in throughout the world.

Alleluia!

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

Glory to you O Lord.

²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord’), ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: ‘a pair of doves or two young pigeons’.

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹ ‘Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.’

³³ The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: 'This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

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

Hymn during preparation of the Table

O Love that wilt not let me go,

I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in Thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to Thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to Thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from Thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

George Matheson (1842-1906)

We do not pass a collection plate during the Offertory, but if you would like to make a donation to support the work, ministry and maintenance of the Parish, there is provision at the back of church for donations in cash, weekly envelopes, by bank card or mobile phone using the reader at the back of the church. Thank you.

The Choir will sing during the distribution of Communion

Final Hymn

The Spirit lives to set us free,
Walk, walk in the light;
He binds us all in unity,
Walk, walk in the light.

*Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light,
Walk in the light of the Lord.*

Jesus promised life to all,
Walk, walk in the light;
The dead were wakened by His call,
Walk, walk in the light.

Walk in the light...

He died in pain on Calvary,
Walk, walk in the light;
To save the lost like you and me,
Walk, walk in the light.

Walk in the light...

We know His death was not the end,
Walk, walk in the light;
He gave His Spirit to be our friend,
Walk, walk in the light.

Walk in the light...

By Jesus' love our wounds are healed,
Walk, walk in the light;
The Father's kindness is revealed,
Walk, walk in the light.

Walk in the light...

The Spirit lives in you and me,
Walk, walk in the light;
His light will shine for all to see,
Walk walk in the light.

Walk in the light...

Damian Lundy

Organ Voluntary;-

Fugue in G minor BWV 542.ii

by J.S.Bach

The Bible Course week 2

If you want to know how all the bible stories, themes and characters all fit together and how to make the most of the bible this course is brilliant and just for you.

**It started Thursday 29th January,
7.30—9pm in St Paul's Centenary Room.
8 sessions in total**

It's free to attend,
dessert and drinks are provided
One off £10 cost for the course book.
Speak to Revs Mike or Jesse for more details. **You can still join**

Those Departed - Rest In Peace

Harry Pinder
Mark Mortimer
Sydney Thorpe
William (Bill) Pye



First Anniversary of Bereavement

Vincent Hunt
Isabel Davies
June Wilding
Hilda Marle Collis
Josie Roberts, Hilary McCabe
Thomas Barker-Metcalf



First Anniversary of Baptism

William Brown



Church Bereavement Support Group

Next Meeting tomorrow
Monday 2nd February 2026
(Meetings are held on the
First Monday of the Month)

Time 7:30 - 9:00pm
St Paul's Church, Church Street
Longridge, PR3 3WA
Refreshments provided

Mothers Union

The monthly meeting of the
Mothers Union takes place this
Tuesday, February 3rd at 7:30 – 8:30pm
in the Centenary Rooms of St. Paul's
Church,

Next Sunday's Services—February 8th 2026 - 2nd Sunday before Lent

10:00am 'All Age Worship Service' at St Paul's Church

6.30pm 'Service of Holy Communion' at St. Lawrence's Church