



Sunday Service
Sunday 3rd January 2021

The Second Sunday of Christmas

Opening Prayer

God our Father, in love you allowed your Son to be born among us so that we would have life. By your Holy Spirit may our prayers, praise and pursuits seek to declare to our broken and hurting world your saving grace and eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bible reading

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.'

Luke 2 : 25 - 35

Talk : Waiting for what?

- Waiting upon a true promise (v 25, 26)
- Waiting with praise and prayer (v 27 – 32)
- Waiting ends – then act (v 33 – 35)

"For my eyes have seen your salvation," Luke 2 : 30

Prayers

God of all the world, help us to live today with Simeon's patient faith. As we wait for your return to this world, may we trust in your promises and live with prayerful praise, fulfilling your purposes each and every day, for the glory of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Dear Lord, source of comfort and joy, by your Holy Spirit may we know your presence and share it with all who we meet with boldness, gentleness and joyful love, this Christmas and for ever more. Amen.

Final Blessing

And now may the joy of the angels, the wonder of the shepherds and the peace of the baby Jesus fill our hearts:

And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us now and always. Amen.