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FEBRUARY

February 2

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Feast

If this feast falls on Sunday, Evening Prayer I is said.

Evening Prayer I

HYMN, from Evening Prayer II, 1355.

PSALMODY

Ant. 1 The parents of Jesus brought him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

Psalm 113

Praise, O servants of the Lord,
praise the name of the Lord!
May the name of the Lord be blessed
both now and for evermore!
From the rising of the sun to its setting
praised be the name of the Lord!
High above all nations is the Lord,
above the heavens his glory.
Who is like the Lord, our God,
who has risen on high to his throne
yet stoops from the heights to look down,
to look down upon heaven and earth?
From the dust he lifts up the lowly,
from his misery he raises the poor
to set him in the company of princes,
yes, with the princes of his people.
To the childless wife he gives a home
and gladdens her heart with children.

1340

Evening Prayer I

1341

Ant. The parents of Jesus brought him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

Ant. 2 Zion, prepare your wedding chamber to receive Christ the King.

Psalm 147:12-20

O praise the Lord, Jerusalem!
Zion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates,
he has blessed the children within you.
He established peace on your borders,
he feeds you with finest wheat.

He sends out his word to the earth
and swiftly runs his command.
He showers down snow white as wool,
he scatters hoar-frost like ashes.

He hurls down hailstones like crumbs.
The waters are frozen at his touch;
he sends forth his word and it melts them:
at the breath of his mouth the waters flow.

He makes his word known to Jacob,
to Israel his laws and decrees.
He has not dealt thus with other nations;
he has not taught them his decrees.

Ant. Zion, prepare your wedding chamber to receive Christ the King.

Ant. 3 Blessed are you, good Simeon; you held in your arms Christ the Lord, the Savior of his people.

Canticle Philippians 2:6-11

Though he was in the form of God,
Jesus did not deem equality with God
something to be grasped at.

Rather, he emptied himself
and took the form of a slave,
being born in the likeness of men.

He was known to be of human estate,
and it was thus that he humbled himself,
obediently accepting even death,
death on a cross!

Because of this,
God highly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name
above every other name,

So that at Jesus' name
every knee must bend
in the heavens, on the earth,
and under the earth,
and every tongue proclaim
to the glory of God the Father:
JESUS CHRIST IS LORD!

Ant. Blessed are you, good Simeon: you held in your
arms Christ the Lord, the Savior of his people.

READING Hebrews 10:5-7

On coming into the world, Jesus said:
"Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,
but a body you have prepared for me;
Holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight in.
Then I said, 'As is written of me in the book,
I have come to do your will, O God.'"

RESPONSORY

The Lord has made known his saving power.
—The Lord has made known his saving power.
Which he has prepared in the sight of every people.