

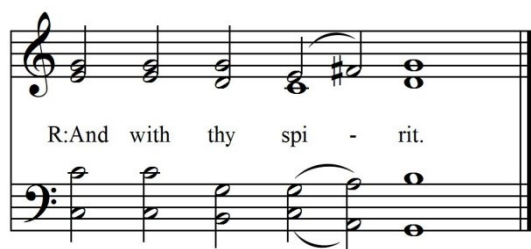
# The Candlemas Blessing of Candles and Processional

## The Rite of Blessing the Candles

*The Celebrant chants the Salutation:*



*And the people respond, chanting:*



*The Celebrant chants the prayer:*

Let us pray. Holy Lord, Almighty Father, Eternal God, through Whom all things out of nothing were created, and hast commanded through the work of bees to produce this perfect liquid of wax; and hast on this day fulfilled the petitions of the just Simeon. We humbly beseech Thee, that as we make use of these candles in Thy holy Church, that through the invocation of Thy holy Name and through the intercessions of Thy beloved Son, Whose Presentation we devoutly celebrate this day, to + bless and sanctify these candles. Hear our voices from Thy holy Heaven and from the throne of Thy majesty, and be merciful unto all who cry unto Thee, Whom Thou hast redeemed by the precious Blood of Thy Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

*The people respond, chanting:*



*The Celebrant chants the next prayer:*

Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, True Light, that enlightens every man who comes into this world, pour out Thy + blessing upon these candles, and + sanctify them with the light of Thy grace. As these lights burn with visible fire and dispel the darkness of night, so may our hearts with the help of Thy grace be enlightened by the invisible fire of the splendor of the Holy Ghost, and may be free from all blindness of sin. Clarify the eyes of our minds that we may see what is pleasing to Thee and conducive to our salvation. After the dark perils of this life let us be worthy to reach the eternal light; through Thee, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who, liveth and reigneth with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

*The people respond, chanting:*



*Then the Celebrant censes the candles.*

*After the Blessing, individual candles are distributed to everyone by the Celebrant, the people approach the Chancel entrance in a single file to receive their candles.*

*During the Distribution the Nunc Dimittis is chanted in the following form:*

All: A Light to light- en the Gen-tiles.

Pastor: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de- part in peace:

Pastor: accord- ing to Thy word,

All: A Light to light- en the Gen-tiles.

Pastor: For mine eyes have seen Thy Sal- va- tion:

Pastor: which Thou hast prepared before  
the face

of all peo- ple;

All: A Light to light- en the Gen-tiles.

Pastor: A Light to light- en the Gen-tiles.

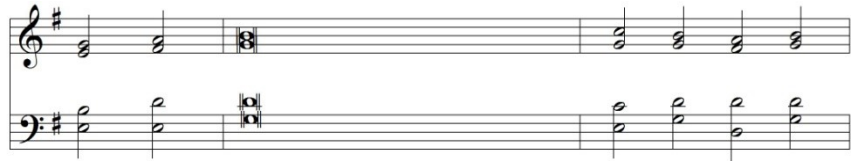
Pastor: and the Glory of Thy peo- ple Isra- el.

All: A Light to light- en the Gen-tiles.

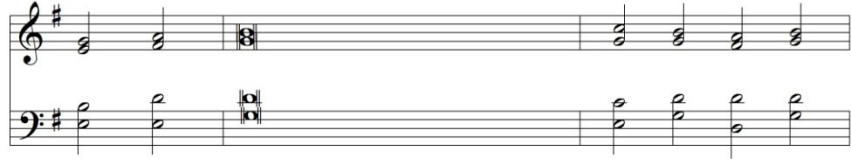
Pastor: Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son:

Pastor: and to

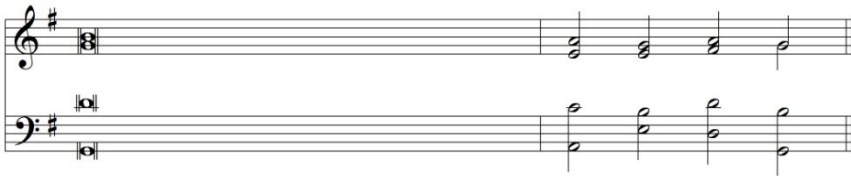
the Ho- ly Ghost;



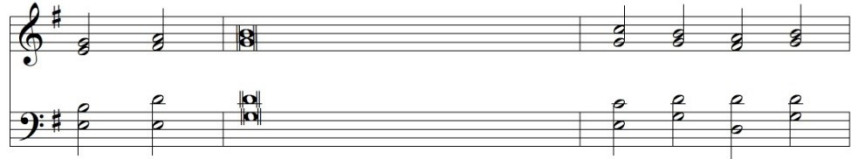
All: A Light to light- en the Gen-tiles.



Pastor: As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev- er shall be:



Pastor: world with- out end. A- men.



All: A Light to light- en the Gen-tiles.

*When the people receive their candles they light their candles by tipping their unlit candle to light from the lit candle and then return to their seats to wait for the Procession.*

*After the Procession all extinguish their candles.*

*The candles are re-lit during the Gospel Procession and are extinguished again just before the Creed.*

*The candles are again re-lit just before the Preface and extinguished after the Distribution.*

*The candles may be taken home by the worshippers after the Service. These candles represent the Baptismal candle that was given to you*

*at your Baptism. Every year we receive a new Baptismal candle so that with oil in our lamps and a freshly trimmed wick we may meet the Bridegroom, when He comes to bring us into the Wedding Feast of Heaven.*

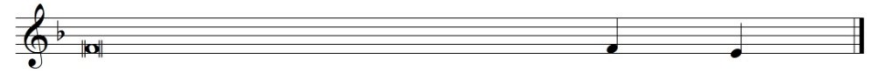
### The Processional

*The Pastor gathers at the foot of the Altar and then chants the Versicle:*



V: Let us go forth in peace.

*And the congregation responds, chanting:*



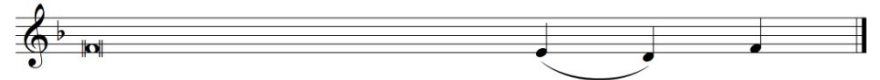
R: In the Name of Christ. A- men.

*The Organist introduces the Hymn, the procession starts, and the congregation joins the procession after it passes them going down the center aisle.*

*Hymn: TLH 138, "Thou Light of Gentile Nations"*

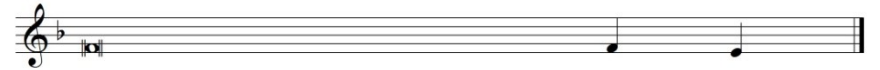
### Station at the Place of the Blessing of the Candles:

*Having completed the Procession, the Celebrant chants the Versicle:*



V: As the Bridegroom from his cham- ber.

*And the people respond, chanting:*



R: Cometh forth the Lord to run His race.

*The Celebrant chants the Collect:*

Let us pray. Almighty and Everlasting God, we beseech Thee, grant that we may know and praise Thy dear Son, even as Simeon of old, taking Him in his arms, spiritually knew and with his lips confessed Him; Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

*And the people respond, chanting:*

A — men.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. It features a series of chords: a triad of G2, B-flat2, and D3, followed by a dyad of G2 and B-flat2, and finally a triad of G2, B-flat2, and D3. The lower staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat and a common time signature. It features a series of notes: a half note G1, a half note B-flat1, and a whole note D2 with a sharp sign (#) above it.

*And the people respond, chanting:*

A — men.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. It features a series of chords: a triad of G2, B-flat2, and D3, followed by a dyad of G2 and B-flat2, and finally a triad of G2, B-flat2, and D3. The lower staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat and a common time signature. It features a series of notes: a half note G1, a half note B-flat1, and a whole note D2 with a sharp sign (#) above it.

*The Organist introduces the Hymn, and the Procession starts:*

Hymn: TLH 116, "To the Name of Our Salvation"

*The Service continues with the Confiteor.*

***Station before the Altar:***

*Having completed the Procession, the Celebrant chants the Versicle:*

The musical notation is a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. It begins with a C-clef sign (C-clef on the first line) and a repeat sign. The melody consists of a half note G2, a half note B-flat2, and a whole note D3.

V: At even ye shall know that  
the Lord will come:

*And the congregation responds, chanting:*

The musical notation is a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. It begins with a C-clef sign (C-clef on the first line) and a repeat sign. The melody consists of a half note G2, a half note B-flat2, and a whole note D3.

R: In the morning, then shall ye see the  
glory of the Lord.

*The Celebrant chants the Collect:*

Let us pray. Lord God, Heavenly Father, who hast given Thy Son to be our Savior, a Light to lighten the Gentiles, and the Glory of Thy people Israel, we beseech Thee, enlighten our hearts, that we may know Thy grace and fatherly will in Him toward us, and obtain everlasting life; through the same Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.