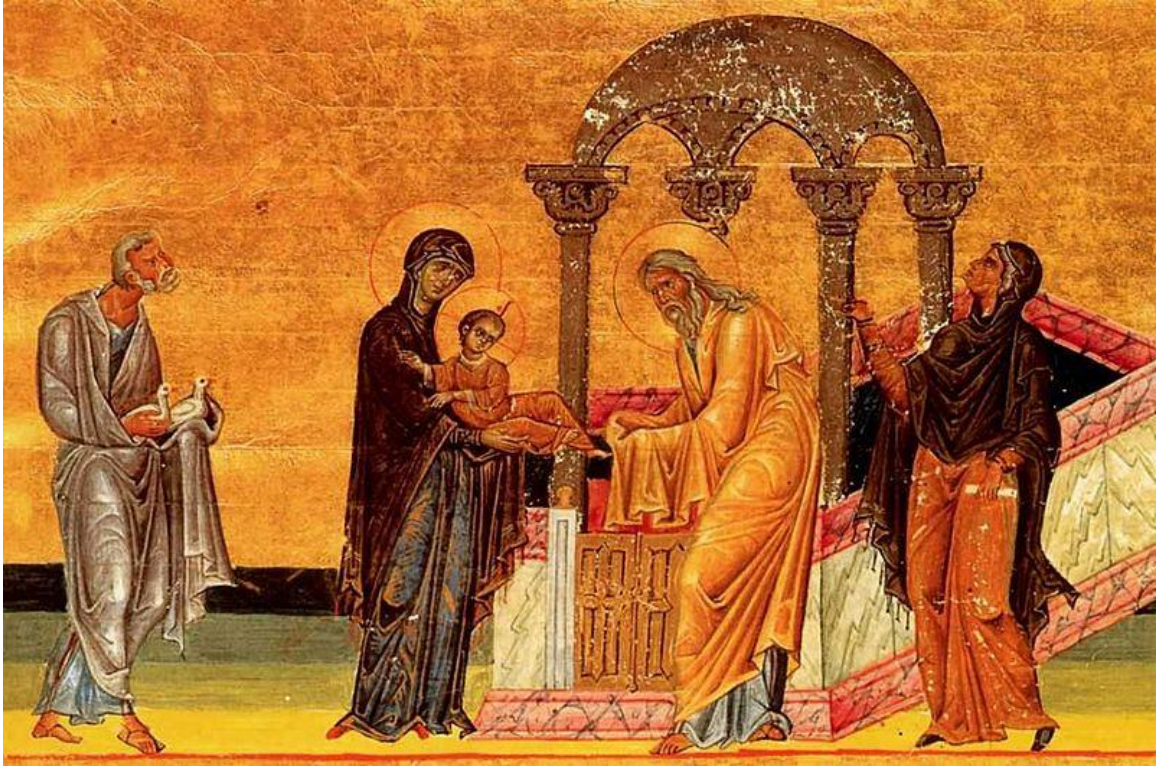


# THE PARISH OF CHRIST THE REDEEMER PELHAM, NEW YORK



CANDLEMAS: THE PRESENTATION  
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

EVENSONG

4:00 PM, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

## **ABOUT CHRIST CHURCH**

The Parish of Christ the Redeemer (known as Christ Church) is the Episcopal Church in Pelham, New York. The Episcopal Church is part of the Anglican Communion which is made up of 85 million people in over 165 countries and is the third largest Christian denomination in the world. Christ Church was founded in 1843 and is the first house of worship in Pelham. This building was consecrated on September 15, 1843, the original church building was expanded in 1910, and the sanctuary was reconstructed in 1968 to allow for the current, more intimate worship space. Our congregation draws primarily from Pelham, New Rochelle, Mount Vernon, and the Bronx, and includes people from diverse denominational and cultural backgrounds.

## **TODAY'S SERVICE**

Tonight we offer a sung service of Evening Prayer called Evensong. Evensong has been offered for nearly 600 years in Anglican and Episcopal cathedrals, city churches, and country parishes around the world. The format for Anglican Evensong can be traced directly to the first Book of Common Prayer and Archbishop Thomas Cranmer who crafted robust services of Morning Prayer (Matins) and Evening Prayer (Evensong) from the smaller monastic offices that had been in use before the Reformation. Anglican Evensong is often the last major service on a Sunday and is said or sung by and for the people. Evensong often includes a sermon, familiar evening hymns, and, when possible, a choir. Tonight's service is Rite I from the Book of Common Prayer 1979. Scripture passages used this evening are from the New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition. All hymns and service music reprinted in this leaflet are either in the public domain or reprinted with permission under OneLicense.net license A-713125.

## **A WARM WELCOME**

Tonight, we welcome as our preacher the Reverend Jesse Lassiter, Rector of Saint Uriel's Church, Sea Gert, New Jersey.

## CANDLEMAS

We gather to celebrate the Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple, also known as Candlemas. Like the rites of Holy Week, the Feast of the Presentation and its candle lighting rite seem to have evolved in the fourth century Church in Jerusalem, when it first became legal in the Roman Empire for the Church to be public in its witness. The Church links the prophecy of the coming of the Lord to his temple with the Gospel account of Jesus being presented in the temple



### NEW OR VISITING?

Welcome to Christ Church! Scan this QR code to fill out our online visitors form. If you prefer there are hard copies of this form in the pew – please fill one out and place it in the offering plate during Announcement. This will help us keep in touch with you.



### SUPPORT CHRIST CHURCH: HOW TO GIVE

The majority of our operating budget is funded by donations. Ushers will pass the collection plate during the Offertory music midway through today's service, and you are invited to make a donation to support Christ Church. If you prefer, you can give online by scanning the QR code or texting an amount to **914-351-2001**.



### PLEDGE FOR 2026 TODAY

Please make a pledge to support Christ Church financially in 2026! Our goal is 150 pledges and a balanced budget. Pledge online today using the QR code.

## ORGAN PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF CANDLES

*An organ prelude is offered before worship as a form of prayer. Once the prelude begins, please refrain from conversation in the church or outside the Sacristy.*

Improvisation

Justin Bischof

*Please light your hand candle when you enter.*

## PRECES & OPENING PRAYER

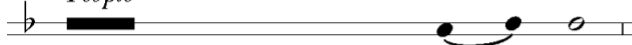
*All stand as the Officiant & Choir offer the opening prayer before entering the Sanctuary.*

*Officiant*



O God, make speed to save us.

*People*



O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Officiant and People*



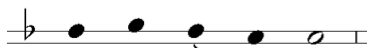
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost:



as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be



world with - out end. A - men.



Al - le - lu - ia.

## CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION

*All remain standing as the ministers enter and organ music is played.*

Improvisation

Justin Bischof

## INTRODUCTION OF THE LITURGY & THE BLESSING OF CANDLES

*The Officiant introduces the liturgy and blesses the hand candles.*

*Officiant* Dear People of God: Forty days ago we celebrated the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today we recall the holy day on which he was presented in the temple and his blessed Mother was purified, both fulfilling the law of Moses.

Led by the Spirit, the aged Simeon came to the temple, recognized the child as the Christ, and proclaimed him the light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Israel. There was also a prophet Anna who worshiped in the temple with fasting and prayer night and day who came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

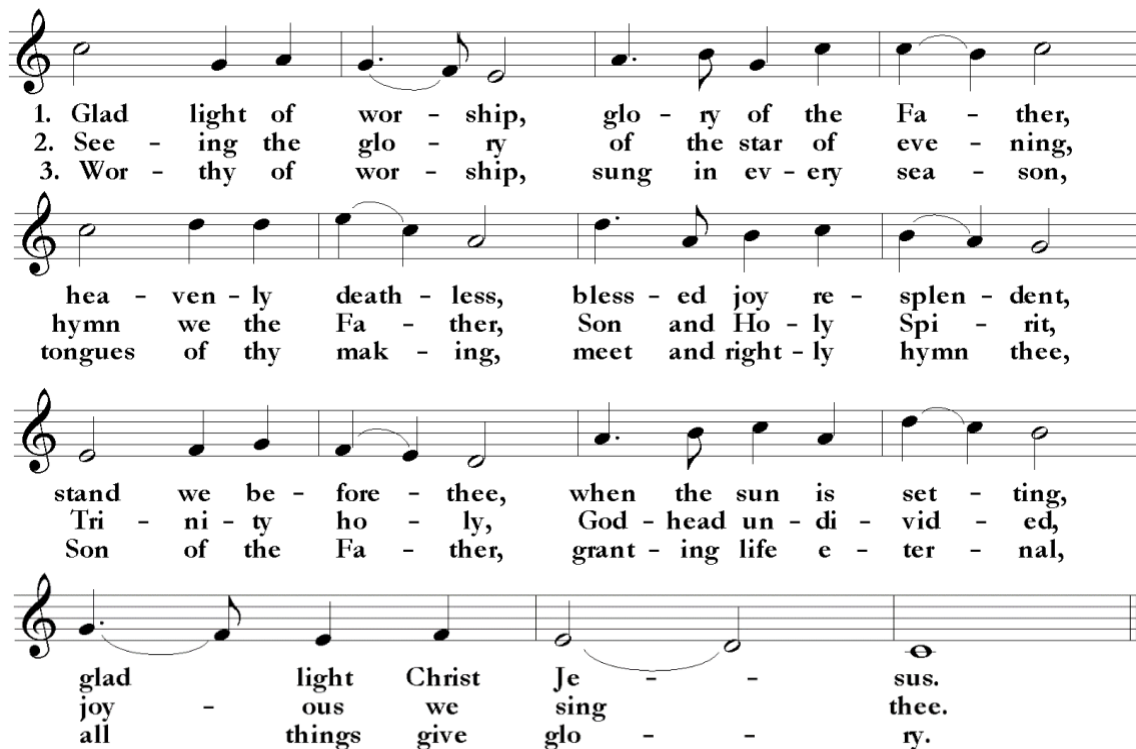
Let us pray.

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; sanctify these candles that they may be signs of thy presence; and guide us always to walk always as children of the Light; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

*People* Amen.

# PHOS HILARON

*All remain standing and sing the hymn.*



1. Glad light of wor - ship, glo - ry of the Fa - ther,  
 2. See - ing the glo - ry of the star of eve - ning,  
 3. Wor - thy of wor - ship, sung in ev - ery sea - son,

hea - ven - ly death - less, bless - ed joy re - splen - dent,  
 hymn we the Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Spi - rit,  
 tongues of thy mak - ing, meet and right - ly hymn thee,

stand we be - fore - thee, when the sun is set - ting,  
 Tri - ni - ty ho - ly, God - head un - di - vid - ed,  
 Son of the Fa - ther, grant - ing life e - ter - nal,

glad light Christ Je - sus.  
 joy ous we sing thee.  
 all things give glo - ry.

Words: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. Louis Weil; para. of *Phos bilaron*

Music: *Caelites plaudant*, melody from *Antiphoner*, 1728; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

## PSALMS 87

*Fundamenta ejus*

*All are seated. The Psalm is sung by the choir to an Anglican Chant setting by Edwin George Monk.*

On the holy mountain stands the city he has founded; \*  
the LORD loves the gates of Zion  
more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

Glorious things are spoken of you, \*  
O city of our God.

I count Egypt and Babylon among those who know me; \*  
behold Philistia, Tyre, and Ethiopia:  
in Zion were they born.

Of Zion it shall be said, "Everyone was born in her, \*  
and the Most High himself shall sustain her."

The LORD will record as he enrolls the peoples, \*  
"These also were born there."

The singers and the dancers will say, \*  
"All my fresh springs are in you."

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, \*  
and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, \*  
world without end. Amen.

## THE FIRST LESSON: HAGGAI 2:1-9

*All are seated. The First Lesson is now read.*

*Reader*            A reading from the Book of Haggai.

In the second year of King Darius, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying: Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts, according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendor, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.

The Word of the Lord

*People*            **Thanks be to God.**



# MAGNIFICAT

*The people remain seated while the choir sings Magnificat in b minor by T. Tertius Noble 1867-1953. Incense is offered.*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, \*  
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.  
For he hath regarded \*  
the lowliness of his hand-maiden.  
For behold from henceforth \*  
all generations shall call me blessed.  
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, \*  
and holy is his Name.  
And his mercy is on them that fear him \*  
throughout all generations.  
He hath showed strength with his arm; \*  
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, \*  
and hath exalted the humble and meek.  
He hath filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he hath sent empty away.  
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, \*  
as he promised to our forefathers,  
Abraham and his seed, for ever.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

## THE SECOND LESSON: LUKE 2:22-40

*All are seated. The Second Lesson is now read.*

*Reader*

A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Luke.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus 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 turtledoves 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 seven years

after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped 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 favor of God was upon him.

The Word of the Lord.

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

## **NUNC DIMITTIS**

*The people remain seated while the choir sings Nunc Dimitis in b minor by T. Tertius Noble 1867-1953.*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, \*  
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, \*  
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, \*  
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be : world without end. Amen.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

*All remain standing. The Creed is chanted in monotone.*

*Celebrant*        I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
*All*                **maker of heaven and earth;**  
**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;**  
**who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,**  
**born of the Virgin Mary,**  
**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**  
**was crucified, dead, and buried.**  
**He descended into hell.**  
**The third day he rose again from the dead.**  
**He ascended into heaven,**  
**and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.**  
**From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Ghost,**  
**the holy catholic Church,**  
**the communion of saints,**  
**the forgiveness of sins,**  
**the resurrection of the body,**  
**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

*All remain standing.*

*Officiant*        The Lord be with you.

*People*            **And also with you.**

*Officiant*        Let us pray.  
**Our Father, who art in heaven,**  
**hallowed be thy Name,**  
**thy kingdom come,**  
**thy will be done,**  
**on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.  
 And forgive us our trespasses,  
     as we forgive those  
     who trespass against us.  
 And lead us not into temptation,  
     but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom,  
     and the power, and the glory,  
     for ever and ever. Amen.

## SUFFRAGES

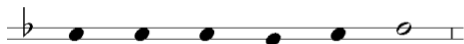
*All remain standing.*

*Officiant*



That this evening may be holy, good, and peace - ful,

*People*



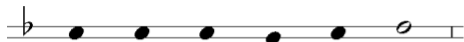
We en - treat thee, O Lord.

*Officiant*



That thy holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and good-will,

*People*



We en - treat thee, O Lord.

*Officiant*



That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and of - fen - ses,

*People*



We en - treat thee, O Lord.

*Officiant*



That there may be peace to thy Church and to the whole world,

*People*



We en - treat thee, O Lord.

*Officiant*

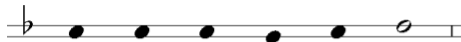


That we may depart this life in thy faith and fear,



and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,

*People*



We en - treat thee, O Lord.

*Officiant*

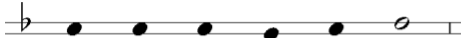


That we may be bound together by thy Holy Spirit in the communion of



[\_\_\_\_\_ and] all thy saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,

*People*

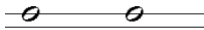


We en - treat thee, O Lord.

## THE COLLECTS

*All remain standing.*

*Officiant* Almighty and everliving God, we humbly beseech thee that, as thy only begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



*All* A - men.

*Officiant* Eternal Father, thou hast made this day holy by the presentation of thy Son in the Temple, and by the purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Mercifully grant that we, who delight in her humble readiness to be the mother of the Only-begotten, may rejoice for ever in our adoption as his sisters and brothers; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.



*All* A - men.

*Officiant* Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake.



*All* A - men.

# OFFICE HYMN

*All stand and sing the hymn.*



1. Sing we of the bless ed Mo ther Who re ceiv ed the an gel's  
2. Sing we, too, of Ma ry's sor rows, Of the sword that pierced her  
3. Sing a gain the joys of Ma ry When she saw the ris en  
4. Sing the chief est joy of Ma ry When on earth her work was

word, And o be dient to the sum mons Bore in love the  
through, When be neath the cross of Je sus She his weight of  
Lord, And in prayer with Christ's a pos tles, Wait ed on his  
done, And the Lord of all cre a tion Brought her to his

in fant Lord; Sing we of the joys of Ma ry At whose  
suf fering knew, Looked up on her Son and Sa vior Reign ing  
prom ised word; From on high the blaz ing glo ry Of the  
heav'n ly home; Vir gin Mo ther Ma ry bles sed, Raised on

breast the child was fed Who is Son of God e  
from the aw ful tree, Saw the price of our re  
Spi rit's pres ence came, Heav'n ly breath of God's own  
high and crowned with grace, May thy Son, the world's Re-

ter nal And the ev er last ing Bread.  
demp tion Paid to set the sin ner free.  
be ing, To kened in the wind and flame.  
dec mer, Grant us all to sec his face.

Words: George B. Tims (b. 1910), alt.

Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907–1991)

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Meter: 87. 87. D



## THE SERMON

*All are seated for the sermon by the Reverend Jesse Lassiter, Rector of Saint Uriel's Church, Sea Gert, New Jersey.*

## THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

*All stand.*

*Officiant*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

*All*

**we thine unworthy servants**

**do give thee most humble and hearty thanks**

**for all thy goodness and loving-kindness**

**to us and to all men.**

**We bless thee for our creation, preservation,**

**and all the blessings of this life;**

**but above all for thine inestimable love**

**in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;**

**for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we beseech thee,**

**give us that due sense of all thy mercies,**

**that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;**

**and that we show forth thy praise,**

**not only with our lips, but in our lives,**

**by giving up our selves to thy service,**

**and by walking before thee**

**in holiness and righteousness all our days;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord,**

**to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,**

**be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.**

## A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

*All remain standing.*

*Officiant* Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting.

*All* **Amen.**

## WELCOME & HOW TO GIVE

*All are seated for a brief welcome and announcements. This week's schedule and additional announcements are at the back of the bulletin. Ushers will pass the collection plate during hymn, and you are invited to make a donation to support Christ Church. If you prefer, you can give online by scanning the QR code or texting an amount to **914-351-2001**. Thank you so much for supporting Christ Church!*



## OFFERING ANTHEM

*The people are seated while the choir sings the anthem and an offering is taken.*

Jubilate Deo

Benjamin Britten 1913-1976

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:  
serve the Lord with gladness,  
and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:  
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;  
we are his children and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,  
and into his courts with praise;  
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting,  
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was and ever shall be:  
world without end. Amen.

## DISMISSAL & GRACE

*All remain standing.*

*Officiant*        Let us bless the Lord.

*All*                **Thanks be to God.**

*Officiant*        Almighty Father, in your providence you send your holy angels to watch over us: Hear our prayers, defend us always by their protection and let us share your life with them for ever, and may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore.

*All*                **Amen.**

## PROCESSIONAL VOLUNTARY

*All remain standing as the altar party processes from the Sanctuary during the postlude. Once the altar party has departed please be seated and be courteous to those who are listening to the music by remaining quiet.*

Improvisation

Bischof

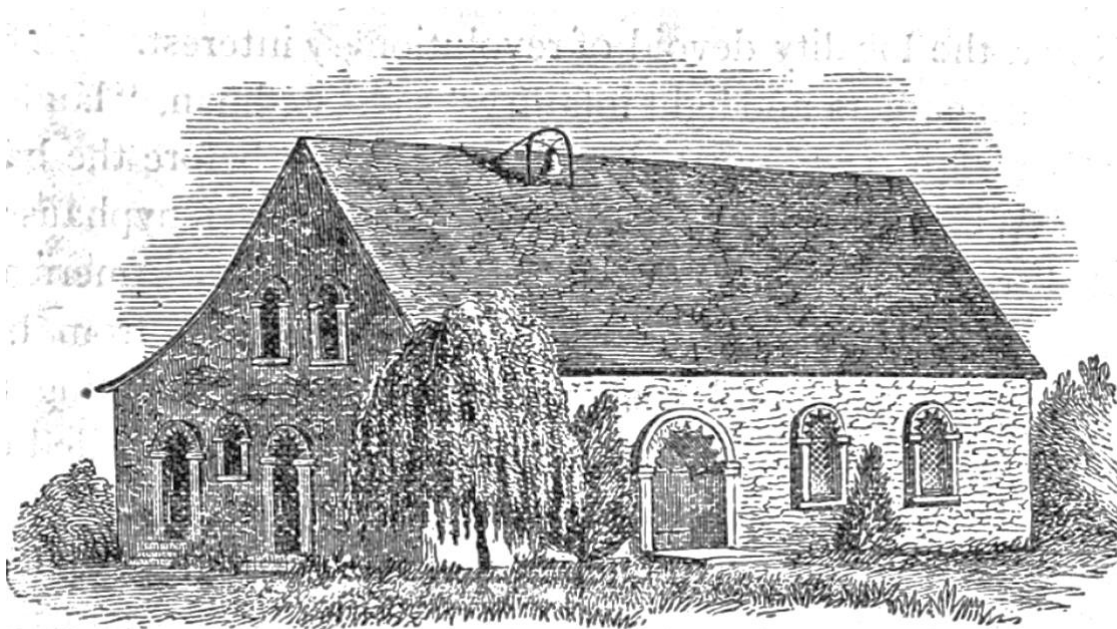
## BLESSING OF THROATS AT THE BOLTON ALTAR

*Today we remember Saint Blasé (February 3), who was bishop of Sebaste in Armenia in the fourth century. Before being martyred, he is said to have healed a boy who was choking. Since the eighth century, Saint Blase has been venerated as the patron of those who suffer from diseases of the throat. We pray in a special way today for protection from afflictions of the throat and from other illnesses. The blessing of Saint Blase is a sign of our faith in God's protection and love for us and for the sick.*

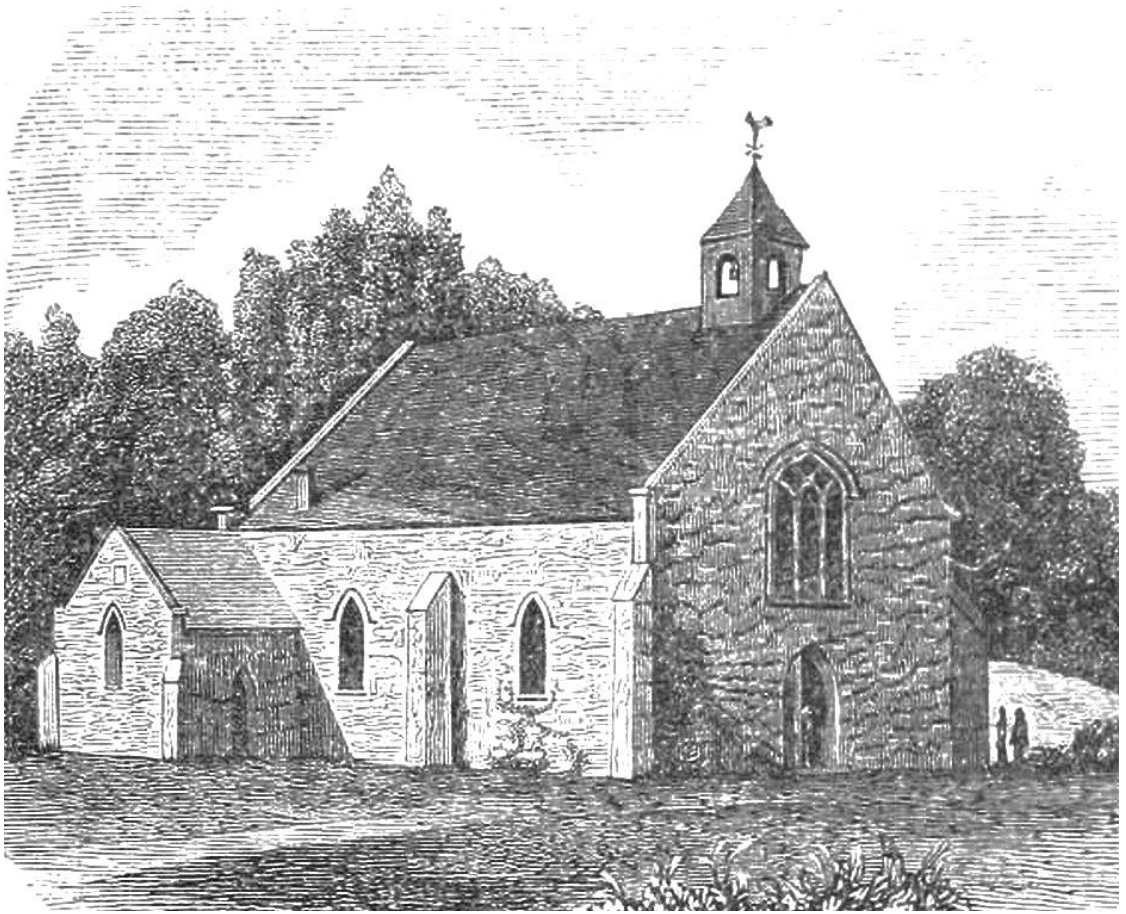
*If you would like to receive a blessing of your throat, please proceed to the Bolton Altar following the service.*

*The minister touches the throat of each person with the crossed candles and, without making the sign of the cross, says the prayer of blessing.*

Through the intercession of Saint Blase, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*



CHRIST CHURCH RECTORY, PELHAM MANOR.



# CHRIST CHURCH

**Episcopal/Anglican**

## **Clergy & Staff**

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, *Priest & Rector*

The Reverend Meredith Hawkins, *Associate Priest*

The Reverend Deacon Chisara Alimole, *Deacon*

Ms. Marie Main, *Parish Administrator*

Dr. Justin Bischof, *Director of Music & Organist*

Mr. Liam Myers, *Director of Children's & Family Ministries*

Mr. Michael Moynihan, *Director of Adult Christian Formation*

Mr. Walter Roberts, *Verger and Sexton*; Mr. Ed Blue, *Sexton*

## **Honorary Clergy**

The Rev. David Hoag, *Rector Emeritus*

The Reverend Deacon Katie Lawrence, *Deacon Emerita*

## **Parish Officers & Vestry**

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, *Rector*

J.D. Calder, *Senior Warden*; Etta Gumbs, *Junior Warden*

Allison Bodenmann, *Treasurer*; John Fox, *Assistant Treasurer*; Jean Gruener, *Clerk*

Jennifer Hawks Bland, Stephen Dolan, Robert Boyer, Charlette Finch,

Curtis Chase, Jack Kraft, Andy DesRault, Robert Landis, Barbara Zambelli

## **Worship Schedule**

Every Sunday at 8am & 10am: Holy Eucharist

Sundays as announced at 5pm: Holy Eucharist or Evensong

Wednesdays & Holy Days as announced at 5:15pm: Holy Eucharist

## **The Parish of Christ the Redeemer**

1415 Pelhamdale Avenue, Pelham, New York 10803

914.738.5515 - [www.christchurchpelham.org](http://www.christchurchpelham.org)

*Christ Church Pelham is a Christian community in the Episcopal tradition.  
As members of the Body of Christ, we are dedicated to spiritual growth and committed  
to serving God through worship and service to our community and the world.*