

February 2, 2008
Saturday of the Third Week of Ordinary Time
Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Readings of the day may be found on the following link:

<http://www.nccbuscc.org/nab>

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm 24:7, 8, 9, 10

Hebrews 2:14-18

Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

"Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel."

I like to think of Simeon as a metaphor for each of us—each of us waiting for the promise of God, a world of peace. Simeon sat patiently in prayer. He never left the temple. What message do I hear for my life as I listen to this gospel? I see myself being called to wait patiently in prayer too. I also see that waiting in the temple means for me that I not stray from the heart of God as I wait. That is the hard part. It is easy to get frustrated with what I see in the world around me. Actually, I don't have to look very far. Near and far, the world is filled with contradictions of God's dream of peace for this world. I can no longer look at the scriptures as just God's promise of salvation for me. It is that, but it is so much more than that. It is God's dream of a world that cares for everything created, a world that cares for least and the lowly among us. It is God's dream for a world where compassion, mercy, forgiveness, and justice are the standard. So, we are called to wait in prayer for this to be born, and, we are called to participate in the creation of this world as well. We are called to be both Simeon and Jesus—to *wait* in prayer and to *be* that prayer, that agent of change and transformation. My prayer today is that as I awake each day, I say yes to this invitation. I pray for the courage to do the work and the faithfulness to pray for this change, to become this change.

Become the change you wish to see in the world.

~M. Gandhi