



New Year's Eve

Grace Lutheran Church

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The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
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Church Office Hours
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Wednesday, December 31, 2025
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Serving Today

WORSHIP LEADER
LIVESTREAM

Pastor Peter Guedner
Matthew Wingren

ORGAN/PIANO
ELDERS/USHERS

Beth Daede
Pete Heyrman



Silent Prayer Before Worship

Heavenly Father, thank You for bringing us through this past year, for Your unfailing goodness and mercy. Forgive us for moments we strayed or put other things before You. As we look to the new year, help us to remember Your faithfulness and renew our commitment to make You the center of our lives. Guide our steps, strengthen our hearts, and fill us with Your peace and joy for the days to come. Amen.

Congregational Prayers

✠ Diane Grieve

✠ Allen Kvittem

✠ Don & Kathy Jungwirth

✠ Sam Konakowitz

✠ John & Bea Beilke

✠ Jon Swanson

✠ Pat Swanson

✠ Patricia Meyer

Lectionary Summary for New Year's Eve

Our Times Are in His Hands

The Church and the world are awake, but for very different reasons. The world counts down to midnight; the Church watches eagerly for her Master who is “*coming at an hour*” we “*do not expect*” (Luke 12:40). For many, the changing year brings regrets, fears and desperate wishes for improvement. The world delights in smooth talk and illusions of prosperity at any cost (Is. 30:9–10). It has already forgotten “*the Holy One of Israel*” born six days earlier (Is. 30:11). The Church ends the calendar year differently. “*In returning and rest ... in quietness and in trust,*” that is, in repentance and faith, for the Holy One saves us, and He is our strength (Is. 30:15). Our times are in His hands (Ps. 31:15), the hands of Mary’s Son — God not only with us, but for us (Matt. 1:23). So, who could be against us? If God has given His Son, “*how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?*” (Rom. 8:31–32). The Church dresses for action not in fear, but in hope; Christ is coming to serve her with His gifts (Luke 12:37). Who is there to condemn us for the passing year? Christ has died, is raised and intercedes for us! What distress will the new year bring? Nothing “*can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord*” (Rom. 8:34–39)!

Order of Service

Divine Service 4 LSB Pg. 203

Hymn of Invocation

LSB 900 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt.; Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain



- 1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,
2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid-en moth - er told,
3 Je - sus! Name of price - less worth To the fall - en of the earth
4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
Kneel-ing in her low - ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.
For the prom - ise that it gave, "Je - sus shall His peo - ple save."
When the cup of hu-man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

- 5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved
Burst their fetters and are saved.

- 6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Absolution

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Introit

Our help is in the name | of the LORD,*
who made | heaven and earth.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous things!*

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.

The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;*

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.*

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Our help is in the name | of the LORD,*
who made | heaven and earth.

Kyrie

C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

Text: Stephen P. Starke

C 1 To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Eternal God, we commit to Your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and commend to Your blessing and love the times yet to come. In the new year, abide among us with Your Holy Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 30:15–17 (see insert)

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Teach us to num- | ber our days*
that we may get a heart of | wisdom.

Satisfy us in the morning with Your | steadfast love,*
that we may rejoice and be glad | all our days.

Hymn

LSB 898 The Ancient Law Departs

Text: Sebastian Besnault, d. 1724; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; Tune: Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750, adapt.

Tune and tune: Public domain



1 The an - cient Law de - parts, And all its fears re - move,
2 The Light of Light di - vine, True bright - ness un - de - filed,
3 His in - fant bod - y now Be - gins the cross to feel;
4 To - day the name is Thine At which we bend the knee.
△ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, For Thy re - deem - ing love,



For Je - sus makes with faith - ful hearts A cov - e - nant of love.
He bears for us the pain of sin, A ho - ly, spot-less child.
Those pre-cious drops of blood that flow For death the vic - tim seal.
They call Thee Je - sus, child di - vine; Our Je - sus deign to be.
With Fa - ther, Spir - it, ev - er one In glo - rious might a - bove.

Epistle

Romans 8:31b-39 (see insert)

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

Alleluia

- C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Verse

- C** These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia

- C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 12:35-40 (see insert)

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.
- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✚ everlasting. Amen.



Hymn of the Day

899 Across the Sky the Shades of Night

Text (sts. 1–3, 5): James Hamilton, 1819–96, alt.; (st. 4): Gregory J. Wismar, 1946
Tune: attr. Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; Text (sts. 1–3, 5): Public domain



1 A - cross the sky the shades of night This New Year's Eve are
2 Be - fore the cross sub - dued we bow, To You our prayer ad -
3 We gath - er up in this brief hour The mem - 'ry of Your
4 We now re - mem - ber, as we pray, Our dear ones in Your
5 Then, gra - cious God, in years to come, We pray Your hand may



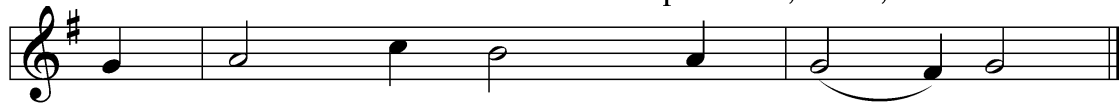
fleet - ing. We deck Your al - tar, Lord, with light, In
dress - ing, Re - count - ing all Your mer - cies now, And
mer - cies: Your won - drous good - ness, love, and pow'r Our
car - ing Who bright - ly shine in end - less day, Past
guide us, And, on - ward through our jour - ney home, Your



sol - emn wor - ship meet - ing; And as the year's last
all our sins con - fess - ing; Be - seech - ing You this
grate - ful song re - hears - es; For You have been our
death and all de - spair - ing. At our life's end, Lord,
mer - cy walk be - side us Un - til at last our



hours go by, We raise to You our ear - nest cry,
com - ing year To keep us in Your faith and fear
strength and stay In man - y a dark and drea - ry day
as Your own, Bring us with them a - round Your throne,
ran - somed life Is safe from per - il, toil, and strife



Once more Your love en - treat - ing.
And crown us with Your bless - ing.
Of sor - row and re - vers - es.
The joys of heav - en shar - ing.
When heav'n it - self shall hide us.

Sermon

Offering

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

C 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
forever and ever. Amen.

Benedicamus

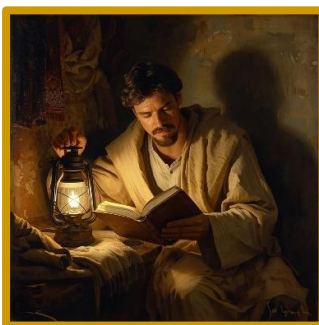
A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

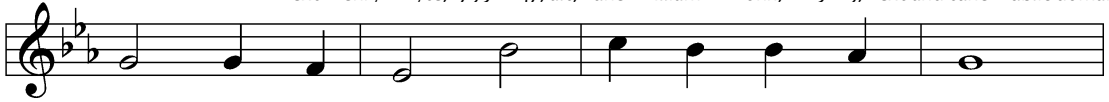
C Amen.



Hymn to Depart

LSB 878 Abide With Me

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt; Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89; Text and tune: Public domain



1 A - bidē with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bidē.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;



Help of the help - less, O a - bidē with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bidē with me.
Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bidē with me.
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bidē with me.

- 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!
- 6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.



Thank you for joining us this evening!
God's Blessings on your New Year!