
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Year's Eve
December 31, 2018
6:00 PM
+ Service of Holy Communion +

AS WE GATHER - This evening, we are very aware of the passage of time. For a while, at least, we are heeding our Lord's admonition to watch and be ready for His return. This is a watch-night service, in which we respond to each Reading with contrition and forgiveness. We are being given the gift of time in which to admit our past foolishness and to rejoice in God's surrounding strength. Our prayer is that God would "establish the work of our hands" in the coming year; that is, that He would help us make the most of the time He so graciously bestows on us. It is time to ask God to "teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom" (Psalm 90:12).

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

"The First Noel"

by Ross James Root

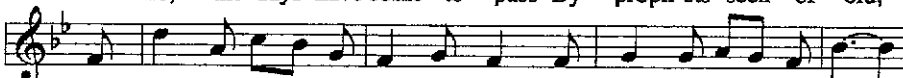
[♩Means please stand; ♪Means please be seated]

♩OPENING HYMN

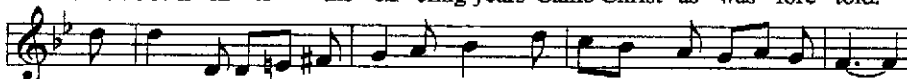
It Came upon the Midnight Clear



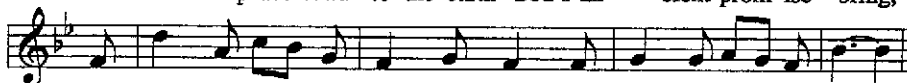
1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo-rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo-ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un-furled,
3 All you, be-neath your heav-y load, By care and guilt bent low,
4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,



From an-gels bend-ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
And still their heav'n-ly mu-sic floats O'er all the wea-ry world.
Who toil a-long a drea-ry way With pain-ful steps and slow:
When down in-to the cir-cling years Came Christ as was fore-told.



"Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav'n's all-gra-cious king."
A-bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov-'ring wing,
Look up, for gold-en is the hour, Come swift-ly on the wing,
His word of peace shall to the earth God's an-cient prom-ise bring,



The world in sol-emn still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.
And ev-er o'er its ba-bel sounds The bless-ed an-gels sing.
The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an-gels sing.
And all who take this gift will hear The song the an-gels sing.

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INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Based on Luke 2:1, 6-7; Galatians 4:4-5; Psalm 90:12

- P** *In the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
- C** **Amen.**
- P** *In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.*
- C** **The time came, and Mary gave birth to her firstborn son.**
- P** *When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law,*
- C** **to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.**
- P** *So teach us to number our days,*
- C** **that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

PSALM/HYMN [Tune: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"] [Congregation sings]

Psalm 90:1-12

- C** **O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:**
- P** *Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.*
- C** **Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.**
- P** *Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting You are God.*
- C** **Before the hills in order stood Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.**
- P** *You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"*
- C** **Thy word commands our flesh to dust: "Return, ye sons of men!"
All nations rose from earth at first And turn to earth again.**
- P** *For a thousand years in Your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the
night.*
- C** **A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.**
- P** *You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the
morning: in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.*
- C** **Like flow'ry fields the nations stand, Pleased with the morning light;
The flow'rs beneath the mower's hand Lie with'ring ere 'tis night.**
- P** *For we are brought to an end by Your anger; by Your wrath we are dismayed. You have set
our iniquities before You, our secret sins in the light of Your presence. For all our days pass
away under Your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh. The years of our life are
seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are
soon gone, and we fly away.*

C Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.

P *Who considers the power of Your anger, and Your wrath according to the fear of You? So, teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.*

C O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!

KYRIE

P *In peace let us pray to the Lord.*

C Lord, have mercy.

P *For the peace from above each day and for our salvation into eternity let us pray to the Lord.*

C Lord, have mercy.

P *For the peace of the whole world, for the daily growth of the Church of God in both freedom and oppression, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.*

C Lord, have mercy.

P *For this holy house and for all who gather here in joys and sorrows to offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.*

C Lord, have mercy.

P *Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.*

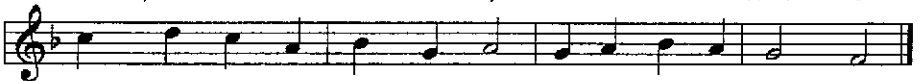
C Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Let Us All with Gladsome Voice



1 Let us all with glad-some voice Praise the God of heav - en,
2 To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sad - ness,
3 We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a won - der?
4 Christ, our Lord and Sav - ior dear, Be Thou ev - er near us.



Who, to bid our hearts re - joice, His own Son hath giv - en.
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes We may reign in glad - ness.
There-fore praise God ev - er - more Here on earth and yon - der.
Grant us now a glad new year. A - men, Je - sus, hear us.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

P *The Lord be with you.*

C And also with you.

P *Let us pray.*

(continued)

All: 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. Amen.

✠ OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 30:15–17

¹⁵ For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel
“In returning and rest you shall be saved;
in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.”
But you were unwilling, ¹⁶ and you said,
“No! We will flee upon horses”;
therefore you shall flee away;
and, “We will ride upon swift steeds”;
therefore your pursuers shall be swift.
¹⁷ A thousand shall flee at the threat of one;
at the threat of five you shall flee,
till you are left
like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain,
like a signal on a hill.

A *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

✠ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

(Part 1)

P *God promised that if they would return and rest, they would be saved. The promise is for us as well. Repentance and allowing God to rescue us is gracious good news, if we would only hear it.*

C **We confess that we have too often preferred to rely on our possessions and plans. We have neglected to consider that our gracious God wants us to trust only Him for daily bread and all that we need. O Lord, forgive us for Jesus' sake.**

P *Our Savior was left as a lone flagstaff on a mountain on the cross of Calvary. To atone for our reliance on ourselves instead of on our Father in heaven, He committed His spirit, faithful to the end. 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. Thanks be to God.**

✠ EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 8:31b–39

³¹ If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn?

Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A *This is the Word of the Lord.*

G **Thanks be to God.**

☩ CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

(Part 2)

P *The confidence we have in being with Christ in eternity is good news for today as well.*

G **But in daily living we do find people against us, charging us with lies, and condemning us to separation from God. We confess that too often we listen to them instead of remembering the confidence with which the biblical writers penned words such as those we just said to one another. Renew in us clean hearts and trusting spirits.**

P *Our gracious heavenly Father forgives us for the sake of His Son, who entered time and space as one of us and who now intercedes for us continuously. 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.*

G **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE

Psalm 103:17a

All: Alleluia. The steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 12:35–40

P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.*

G **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁵[Jesus said:] “Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! ³⁹But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

G **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

(Part 3)

- P** Remember who it is who is returning after His absence.
- C** At times like this, when we are here in church watching both clock and calendar, we are ready. But we confess that many days we worry more about our rest and relaxation and who might be available to serve us. We confess that we forget about our Lord and His imminent return and fail to serve the people around us. Forgive us, heavenly Father, and remind us of Your daily, gracious presence, that we might be watchful against temptation and sin.
- P** Our Savior came "in the fullness of time" and was born "under the law to redeem those under the law." He knows your struggles firsthand. Because He not only lived the obedient life in our stead but also paid for all sins, including those we repeat often, the Father's forgiveness is freely available to us. 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 ~~F~~ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen. Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

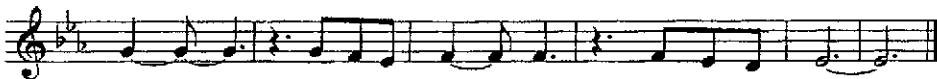
Jesus Name Above All Names



Je - sus, name a - bove all names, beau - ti - ful sav - ior,
 Je - sus, lov - ing Shep - herd, vine of the branch - es,
 Je - sus, way of sal - va - tion, King of Kings,



glo - ri - ous Lord, Em - man - u - el, God is
 Son of God, Prince of Peace, Won - der - ful
 Lord of Lords, the way, the truth, and the



with us, blessed Re - deem - er liv - ing Word
 coun - se - lor, Lord of the u - ni - verse, Light of the world
 life, might - y cre - a - tor, Sa - vior and friend

Words and music by Naida Heam. © 1974, 1978 Scripture in Song.

SERMON

"IN THE NAME OF JESUS"

Luke 2:21

NICENE CREED

- C** I believe in One God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in One Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made Man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the

dead, Whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

POFFERING

“How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds”

by Paul Bouman

OFFERTORY

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds In
 2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole And
 3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, My
 4 O Je - sus, shep - herd, guard - ian, friend, My



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,
 calms the heart's un - rest; 'Tis man - na to the
 shield and hid - ing place; My nev - er - fail - ing
 Proph - et, Priest, and King, My Lord, my life, my



heals our wounds, And drives a - way our fear.
 hun - gry soul And to the wea - ry, rest.
 trea - sury filled With bound - less stores of grace.
 way, my end, Ac - cept the praise I bring.

5. How weak the effort of my heart,
 How cold my warmest thought!
 But when I see Thee as Thou art,
 I'll praise Thee as I ought.

6. Til then I would Thy love proclaim
 With ev'ry fleeting breath;
 And may the music of Thy name
 Refresh my soul in death!

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Based on Psalm 90:13–17

P Return, O Lord! How long?

C Have pity on Your servants!

P Heavenly Father, wherever people languish in suffering from oppression, injustice, denial of basic needs, warfare, famine, or personal distress,

C have pity on Your servants and meet their deepest needs.

P Satisfy us in the morning with Your steadfast love,

C that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

P Here and wherever Your people gather around Word and Sacrament, O Lord, assure them of Your love and forgiveness so that relying on Your strength and salvation,

C we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

- P** *Make us glad for as many days as You have afflicted us,*
C **and for as many years as we have seen evil.**
- P** *Lord Jesus, guide and direct all who are in power in the nations. Turn their eyes from power and prestige for themselves to caring for the most vulnerable within their borders and seeking peaceful relations with neighboring states. May the New Year usher in times of joy and gladness*
- C** **for as many years as we have seen evil.**
- P** *Let Your work be shown to Your servants,*
C **and Your glorious power to their children.**
- P** *O Holy Spirit, increase faith and love in parents and children, husbands and wives, so that they all look beyond their present goals to seek those things that will benefit their families today and in the years to come. Grant that they give You the credit and teach their children about Your glorious power. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,*
C **and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!**
- P** *Into Your hands we commend ourselves and pray:*
C **Establish the work of our hands, making good use of the time You give us as each new day dawns.**
- P** *Hear us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.*
C **Amen.**
- P** *We share the peace our Lord bestows on us as a joyful expression of our faith as we enter the New Year by His grace.*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

- P** *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*
C **And also with you.**
- P** *Let us share this peace with one another.*
 (People greet one another saying: "Peace be with you. And also with you.")

PREFACE

- P** *The Lord be with you.*
C **And also with you.**
- P** *Lift up your hearts.*
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

- P** *It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Holy Lord, Almighty Father, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:*

Ho-ly! Ho-ly! Ho - ly Lord! God of pow-er and of might: Shep-herds and the
 6 kings a-dored; fol - lowed your most glor - ious light. Ho - - -
 11 - - - ly Lord! Bles-sed is Your name - Ho - - -
 16 - - - ly Lord! Ho-san-na in the high - est

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P *Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You did not leave Your people without hope, but promised a Redeemer through the ages and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to live out His days as one of us, to bear our sin, and to be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation that comes new to us as each day dawns. Aware of the passage of time this day, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood today and at each celebration of the Lord's Supper until we gather with all the faithful at the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.*

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P *As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.*

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

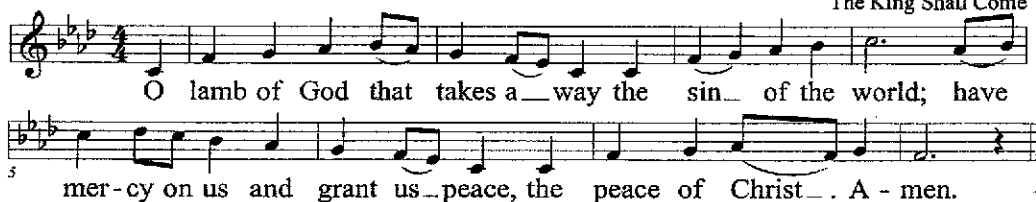
P *O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:*

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.*

[Remain standing]

♩ AGNUS DEI

The King Shall Come



O lamb of God that takes a way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us and grant us peace, the peace of Christ. A - men.

Reminder: gluten free wafer (by holding up an index finger to the elder), and non-alcoholic wine (the white grape juice in the center) are also available.

♩ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Abide with Me



1 A - bide 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 - bide.
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 - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.

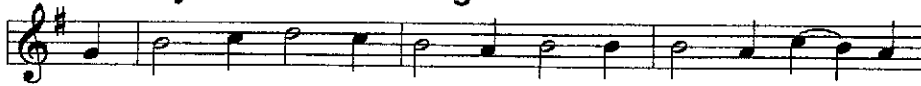
5. I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!

(continued)

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.

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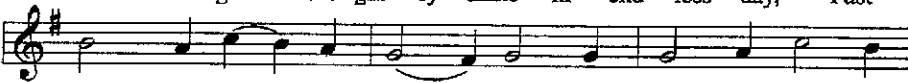
Across the Sky the Shades of Night



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



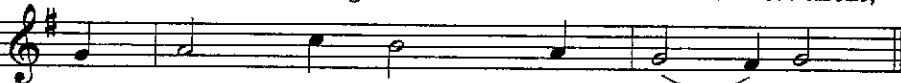
flect - ing. We deck Your al - tar, Lord, with light, In
 dress - ing, Re - count - ing all Your mer - cies now, And
 mer - cies: Your won - drous good - ness, love, and pow'r Our
 car - ing Who bright - ly shine in end - less day, Past



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,



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,



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.

5. Then, gracious God, in years to come, Until at last our ransomed life
 We pray Your hand may guide us, Is safe from peril, toil, and strife
 And, onward through our journey home, When heav'n itself shall hide us.
 Your mercy walk beside us

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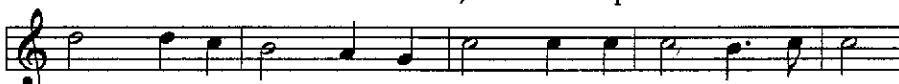
When Peace, like a River



1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way; When
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, Let
 3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; My
 4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The



sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross, and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate And hath shed His own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; E - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P *Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake at the end of this year You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but help us to number our days that by Your Holy Spirit we may be enabled to serve You in joy as each day dawns, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.*

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P *The blessing of Almighty God—the Father who called all things into existence, the Son who entered time and space to redeem us for eternity, and the Holy Spirit who strengthens us in good times and bad—be upon you, now and forever.*

C Amen.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord in the new year and always.

G Thanks be to God!

CLOSING HYMN

Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year



1 Now greet the swift - ly chang - ing year With
2 Re - mem - ber now the Son of God And
3 This Je - sus came to end sin's war; This
4 His love a - bun - dant far ex - ceeds The
5 With Him as Lord to lead our way In



joy and pen - i - tence sin - cere. Re - joice! Re-joyce! With
how He shed His in - fant blood. Re - joice! Re-joyce! With
Name of names for us He bore. Re - joice! Re-joyce! With
vol - ume of a whole year's needs. Re - joice! Re-joyce! With
want and in pros - per - i - ty, What need we fear in



thanks em - brace An - oth - er year of grace.
thanks em - brace An - oth - er year of grace.
thanks em - brace An - oth - er year of grace.
thanks em - brace An - oth - er year of grace.
earth or space In this new year of grace!

6. "All glory be to God on high,
And peace on earth!" the angels cry.
Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace
Another year of grace.
7. God, Father, Son, and Spirit, hear!
To all our pleas incline Your ear;
Upon our lives rich blessing trace
In this new year of grace.

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POSTLUDE

"Born is He, the Divine Christ Child"

by Patricia Lou Harris

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WE WISH TO THANK everyone who participated in this evening's worship:

Acolyte Noah Wohletz
Altar Guild Elsie Leiker, Sharon Milliken, Beth Tevah
Communion Assistant..... David Kurth
Greeter..... Marisa Showalter
Organist/Music Director Beth Buss
Ushers..... * Naomi Kettner, *Phil Vandre, Bob Sees, Tony Williams

