

# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod

## **New Year's Eve**

December 31, 2024

Divine Service, Setting One – LSB 151

**5:00 pm\***

\*livestreamed on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)



## **AS WE GATHER**

Although New Year's Eve is more holiday than holy day, the people of God come together not simply to remember the passage of time but to commend their days to the Lord. Our time is lived in God's hands. The world acknowledges the passage of a year, but the Church sees us another year closer to the Lord's return to finish all things. We live out our days not as the fearful who do not know what is ahead, but as the confident who pray for God to finish the days here and begin eternity. Faith to anticipate and greet our eternal future is faith strong enough to meet whatever changes this world holds.

Many thanks to Pastor Winterstein for leading our worship today,  
and Abolade Olatunji for serving as our guest organist,  
both joining us from University Lutheran Church.

[Rev. Eric J. Edwards](#) ✠ [Rev. Liwei Sui](#) ✠ [Dr. Priscilla Gabriel](#), Director of Parish Music  
2200 S. High Street, Bloomington, IN ✠ 812-332-1668 ✠ [office@faithbtown.org](mailto:office@faithbtown.org) ✠ [www.faithtown.org](http://www.faithtown.org)

# ✠ ✠ ✠ GATHERING ✠ ✠ ✠

## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

### HYMN OF INVOCATION – LSB 899 – 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  
 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.

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# KYRIE – Lord, Have Mercy – *Mark 10:47*



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



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



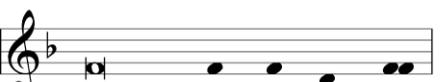
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



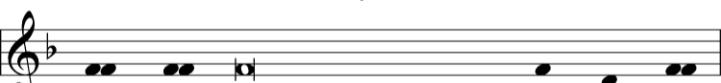
**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

**HYMN OF PRAISE – Gloria in Excelsis – Luke 2:14; John 1:29**



**P** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

**SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY** – 2 Timothy 4:22

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. ... one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT** – Isaiah 30:15-17 – In returning and rest you shall be saved.

<sup>15</sup>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, <sup>16</sup>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.

<sup>17</sup>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.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL** – Psalm 90:12, 14

**P** Teach us to number our days, that we may get a heart of wisdom.

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

**EPISTLE** – Romans 8:31b-39 – Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

<sup>31</sup> What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup> 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? <sup>33</sup> Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup> 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. <sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? <sup>36</sup> As it is written,

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

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor 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.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA and COMMON VERSE** – *John 6:68*



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**HOLY GOSPEL** – **Luke 12:35-40** – Jesus exhorts vigilance every day.

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



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>35</sup> “Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, <sup>36</sup> and 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. <sup>37</sup> Blessed 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. <sup>38</sup> If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! <sup>39</sup> But 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. <sup>40</sup> You 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.



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

**HYMN OF THE DAY** – **LSB 733** – **O God, Our Help in Ages Past**



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:  
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.  
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.  
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

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

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

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## SERMON

### CREED – 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 men 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 worshiped 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.

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**A** Let us pray for the whole people of God and for all people according to their needs.

**C** Lord, we ask in Your mercy to hear and answer our prayers.

**A** Almighty God, You created this world from nothing, and by Your will it exists to this day;

**C** yet there is coming a day when You will be revealed, the world will be judged, and we will be home forever.

**A** We look around our world, and we do not understand it;

**C** we see things we do not understand, such as violence against others, and our hearts are broken.

**A** We long for the day Isaiah prophesied that will come;

**C** today, however, You have made us Your hands, feet, and heart to other people as long as we are here.

**A** Therefore, we lift up those who are suffering in this life. Lord, be with them, provide for their needs, and comfort them in their hour of affliction, reminding them of their great reward.

**C** Help us remember Paul's reminder that our sufferings are not worthy of being compared with the glory that awaits us.

- A** You have commanded us to pray for rulers everywhere in Your Word.
- C** **We lift up our President, all members of Congress, and our state and local leaders, and ask that they would be led by Your Spirit to make decisions pleasing to You and helpful for us, as well as all who rule this world.**
- A** For those whose needs are not known to us, we lift them up in silence, knowing You will hear and answer.

*A moment of silence is observed.*

- A** Lord Jesus, we look forward to the day when tomorrow is no more;
- C** **hear our prayers and keep us in the true faith, so we need not worry about tomorrow or eternity;**
- A** for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, the same yesterday, today, and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY – Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

# ✠ ✠ ✠ SACRAMENT ✠ ✠ ✠

## 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.
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and singing:

## SANCTUS – Holy, Holy, Holy – Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** ...one God, now and forever.  
**C** Amen.

## 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,

## For Guests and Visitors Desiring the Sacrament

As a congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, we confess, in accord with the Scriptures, that **in this sacred meal Jesus Himself is truly present to forgive our sin and strengthen our faith.**

Participation in this meal indicates that you **believe, have been baptized, and have been taught** according to our Lord's command **and are in doctrinal agreement** with this confession.

**If you are visiting from outside the Lutheran Church or are new to the faith,** we welcome you to come to the altar with arms crossed to receive a blessing.

**If you desire to receive instruction for the Lord's Supper,** please speak with one of our pastors.

but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### PAX DOMINI – The Peace of the Lord – *John 20:19*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

### AGNUS DEI – Lamb of God – *John 1:29*



**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.



## DISTRIBUTION

### LSB 880 – Now Rest beneath Night’s Shadow



1 Now rest be - neath night's shad - ow The wood - land,  
2 The ra - diant sun has van - ished, Its gold - en  
3 Now all the heav'n - ly splen - dor Breaks forth in  
4 Lord Je - sus, since You love me, Now spread Your  
5 My loved ones, rest se - cure - ly, For God this



field, and mead - ow; The world in slum - ber lies.  
rays are ban - ished From dark - 'ning skies of night;  
star - light ten - der From myr - iad worlds un - known;  
wings a - bove me And shield me from a - larm.  
night will sure - ly From per - il guard your heads.



But you, my heart, a - wak - ing And prayer and mu - sic  
But Christ, the Sun of glad - ness, Dis - pel - ling all our  
And we, this mar - vel see - ing, For - get our self - ish  
Though Sa - tan would de - vour me, Let an - gel guards sing  
Sweet slum - bers may He send you And bid His hosts at -



mak - ing, Let praise to your Cre - a - tor rise.  
sad - ness, Shines down on us in warm - est light.  
be - ing For joy of beau - ty not our own.  
o'er me: This child of God shall meet no harm.  
tend you And through the night watch o'er your beds.

Text and tune: Public domain

#### **Distribution Notes:**

If you need **gluten-free wafers**, please let one of the pastors know.

**Non-alcoholic** (white) grape juice, containing *a trace amount of wine*, is available in the center of the tray.

# LSB 760 – What God Ordains Is Always Good



1 What God or - dains is al - ways good: His will is  
 2 What God or - dains is al - ways good: He nev - er  
 3 What God or - dains is al - ways good: His lov - ing  
 4 What God or - dains is al - ways good: He is my



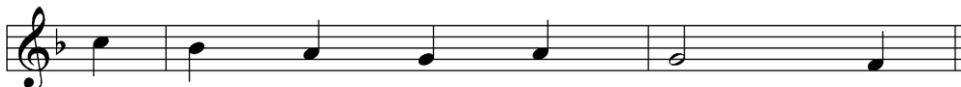
just and ho - ly. As He di - rects my life for me,  
 will de - ceive me; He leads me in His righ - teous way,  
 thought at - tends me; No poi - son can be in the cup  
 friend and Fa - ther; He suf - fers naught to do me harm



I fol - low meek and low - ly. My God in - deed  
 And nev - er will He leave me. I take con - tent  
 That my phy - si - cian sends me. My God is true;  
 Though man - y storms may gath - er. Now I may know



In ev - 'ry need Knows well how He will shield me;  
 What He has sent; His hand that sends me sad - ness  
 Each morn - ing new I trust His grace un - end - ing,  
 Both joy and woe; Some - day I shall see clear - ly



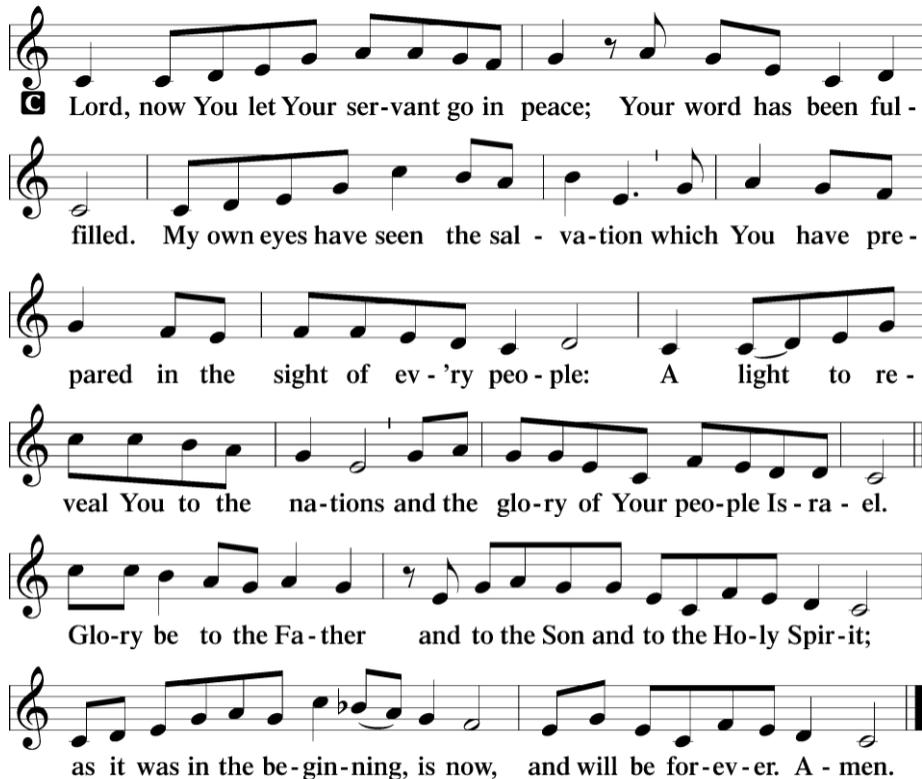
To Him, then, I will yield me.  
 Will turn my tears to glad - ness.  
 My life to Him com - mend - ing.  
 That He has loved me dear - ly.

5 What God ordains is always good:  
 Though I the cup am drinking  
 Which savors now of bitterness,  
 I take it without shrinking.  
 For after grief  
 God gives relief,  
 My heart with comfort filling  
 And all my sorrow stilling.

6 What God ordains is always good:  
 This truth remains unshaken.  
 Though sorrow, need, or death be mine,  
 I shall not be forsaken.  
 I fear no harm,  
 For with His arm  
 He shall embrace and shield me;  
 So to my God I yield me.

Text and tune: Public domain

**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE – Nunc Dimittis – Luke 2:29-32**



**C** Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

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**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

- P** Let us pray... one God, now and forever.  
**C** Amen.

**BENEDICTION**

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.  
**C** Amen.



## HYMN TO DEPART – LSB 896 – 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



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



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.

5 With Him as Lord to lead our way  
 In want and in prosperity,  
 What need we fear in earth or space  
 In this new year of grace!

Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace  
 Another year of grace.

6 “All glory be to God on high,  
 And peace on earth!” the angels cry.

△ 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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## SILENT PRAYER / ANNOUNCEMENTS

## POST-SERVICE MUSIC



If you have any **urgent pastoral needs**,  
 please contact [Pastor Sui](#) at 812-671-3915

The Church office will be open **10am-Noon next week: January 5-8.**  
**Regular office hours will resume on Thursday, January 12.**

BLESS US  
in this new year, Lord.



My future is in  
**YOUR  
HANDS.**  
PSALM 31:15, NLT