

December 31, 2021

New Year's Eve



*“We Preach Christ Crucified...”*

- 1 Corinthians 1:23

**LUTHER MEMORIAL**  
CHURCH & SCHOOL K-8

134 21st Street  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

An Affiliate of the Church of the Lutheran Confession ♦ [www.clclutheran.org](http://www.clclutheran.org)

*Happy New Year*



○ SING UNTO THE LORD  
*a new song;*  
FOR HE HATH DONE  
*marvelous things.*

**PSALM 98:1, KJV**

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Pastor Rob Sauers • Principal Jennifer Wiese

## As We Gather

On this Eve of a New Year we are gathered together to meditate on the goodness of our God during the past year and to pray for his grace for the future. Though we find ourselves in the midst of uncertainty, we turn again and again to the Lord our God who does not change. His Word has been our fortress and our Rock of refuge in all times. So as we approach the New Year tonight we turn again to that Word – to its revelation and its promises. It helps us to know God better. It will direct our prayers. It will fill us with hope. It will remind us of the forgiveness which we have in Jesus.

*[Today's hymns are printed on pages 10-13 of the bulletin.]*

## ✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

**Hymn** TLH 110 (1-4) - Across the Sky the Shades of Night

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### Confession and Absolution

- P** God invites us to come into His presence and worship Him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask Him to forgive us.
- C** **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you. During the past year my mind has entertained thoughts that it should not, my lips have spoken words that would have better been left unsaid, my hands and feet have done things and gone places where they ought not to have been. I am unworthy of anything good from you. I deserve to be punished for what I have done—not just in this life, but also for all eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**
- P** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son, born to a virgin by the power of the Holy Spirit, to live and then to die as the sacrifice of reconciliation for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

# ✠ The Service of the Word ✠

## Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

## Hymn of Praise

TLH 112 – To God the Anthem Raising

To God the an-them rais - ing, Sing, Chris-tians, great and  
Let us con - sid - er right-ly His mer - cies man - i -  
O Fa - ther dear in heav-en, For all Thy gifts of  
small; Sing out, His good - ness prais - ing, Oh,  
fold, And let us not think light - ly Of  
love Which Thou to us hast giv - en We  
thank Him, one and all! Be - hold how God this  
all His gifts un - told. Let thank - ful - ness re -  
lift our thanks a - bove. In Je - sus' name we  
year, Which now is safe - ly end - ed, Hath  
call How God this year hath led us, How  
here, To Thee our prayers ad - dress - ing, Still  
in His love be - friended His chil-dren far and near.  
He hath clothed and fed us, The great ones and the small.  
ask Thee for Thy bless-ing: Grant us a joy-ful year.

## Salutation

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

**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 to come. In the new year, abide among us with your Holy Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

Ecclesiastes 12:1–7

<sup>1</sup> Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near of which you will say, “I have no pleasure in them”; <sup>2</sup> before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars are darkened and the clouds return after the rain, <sup>3</sup> in the day when the keepers of the house tremble, and the strong men are bent, and the grinders cease because they are few, and those who look through the windows are dimmed, <sup>4</sup> and the doors on the street are shut—when the sound of the grinding is low, and one rises up at the sound of a bird, and all the daughters of song are brought low— <sup>5</sup> they are afraid also of what is high, and terrors are in the way; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags itself along, and desire fails, because man is going to his eternal home, and the mourners go about the streets— <sup>6</sup> before the silver cord is snapped, or the golden bowl is broken, or the pitcher is shattered at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern, <sup>7</sup> and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 90:1-12

**P** Lord, you have been our dwelling place

**C** in all generations.

**P** Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world,

**C** from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

**P** You return man to dust and say,

**C** "Return, O children of man!"

**P** For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past,

**C** or as a watch in the night.

- P** You sweep them away as with a flood;  
**C** **they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning:**  
**P** in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;  
**C** **in the evening it fades and withers.**  
**P** For we are brought to an end by your anger;  
**C** **by your wrath we are dismayed.**  
**P** You have set our iniquities before you,  
**C** **our secret sins in the light of your presence.**  
**P** For all our days pass away under your wrath;  
**C** **we bring our years to an end like a sigh.**  
**P** The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty;  
**C** **yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.**  
**P** Who considers the power of your anger,  
**C** **and your wrath according to the fear of you?**  
**P** So teach us to number our days  
**C** **that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

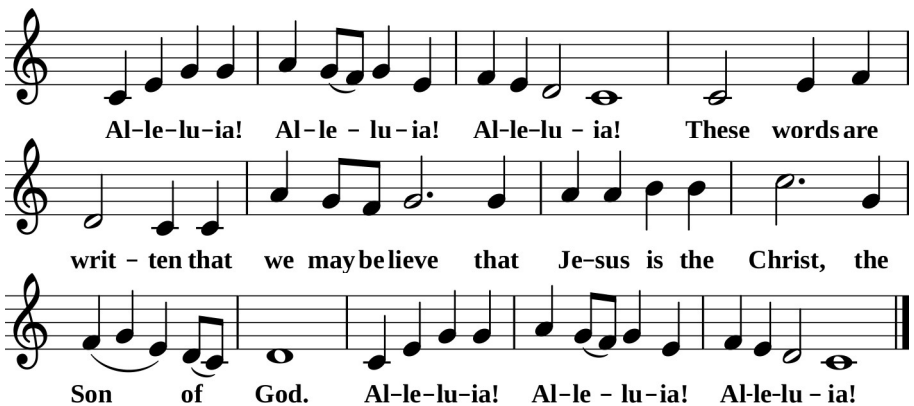
## Epistle Reading

1 Peter 1:22–25

<sup>22</sup> Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, <sup>23</sup> since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; <sup>24</sup> for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, <sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord remains forever.” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

## Alleluia

- P** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu-ia! Al-le-lu - ia! These words are  
 writ - ten that we may believe that Je-sus is the Christ, the  
 Son of God. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu-ia! Al-le-lu - ia!

## Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

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.

## Hymn

WS 716 – Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year

## Sermon Text

Luke 13:1–9

<sup>1</sup> There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup> And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? <sup>3</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” <sup>6</sup> And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup> And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ <sup>8</sup> And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. <sup>9</sup> Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’ ”



*Sermon*

## What Does What Happens in this World Lead You To?

## Offertory



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly  
Spir-it from me. Re store to me the joy of Your sal -  
va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir-it free.

## Hymn

TLH 125 – The Old Year Now hath Passed Away

## General Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

### ✠ The Service of the Sacrament ✠

## Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up to the Lord.

**P** It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God...  
...Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of Sa-ba-oth, a-dored; Heav'n and  
earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name. Sing ho -  
san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san-na to the Lord; Tru-ly  
blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Words of Institution

### The Peace of the Lord

Pax Domini

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

**C** Amen.

## Lamb of God

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose  
blood, once shed, true life re - stored, Im -  
part Your joy, our faith in - crease. Sus -  
tain with Your mer-cy and grant us Your peace.



## Distribution

*Holy Communion is rightly called a ‘Sacrament’ because it is a “Sacred act;” not in what WE do for Christ, but in what Christ does for US! Because God’s Word presents the reception of this Sacrament as a most intimate expression of spiritual and confessional unity (1 Corinthians 1:10; 10:16-17 Romans 16:17-18), we ask only those who have publicly professed such oneness of faith and belief with us by membership here or another CLC church come forward at this time. This is not a judgment of anyone’s faith, but rather an expression of ours. Please speak with pastor if you are seeking a church home or have any questions. We’d love to have you!*

## O Lord, Now Let Your Servant

Nunc Dimittis



O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De - part in heav'n-ly  
All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All glo - ry to the  
peace, For I have seen the glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing  
Son, All glo - ry to the Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in -  
grace: A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un - to Your ho - ly  
One; For as in the be - gin - ning, Is now, shall ev - er  
hill, The glo - ry of Your peo - ple, Your  
be, God's tri - une name re - sound - ing Through  
cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
all e - ter - ni - ty.

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

## Thanksgiving

My heart has now be come Your dwell ing, O bless ed ho-ly Trin-i-  
ty. With an-gels I, Your prais-es tell - ing, Shall live in  
joy e - ter-nal - ly. Lord, may Your bod - y and Your  
blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**G** Amen.

## Hymn

TLH 123 (1-4, 6, 8) - Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

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# TLH 110 (1-4) - Across the Sky the Shades of Night

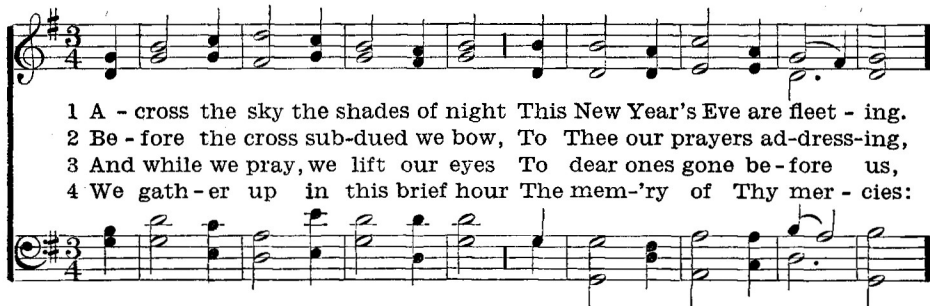
Ps. 121 : 1

James Hamilton, 1882

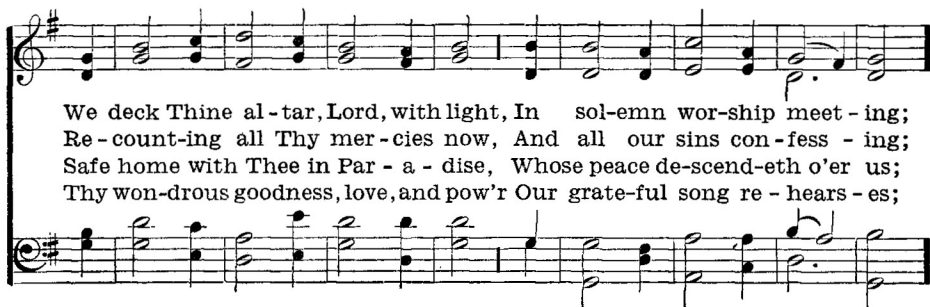
♩ 7. 8. 7. 8. 8. 7.

Allein Gott in der Höh'

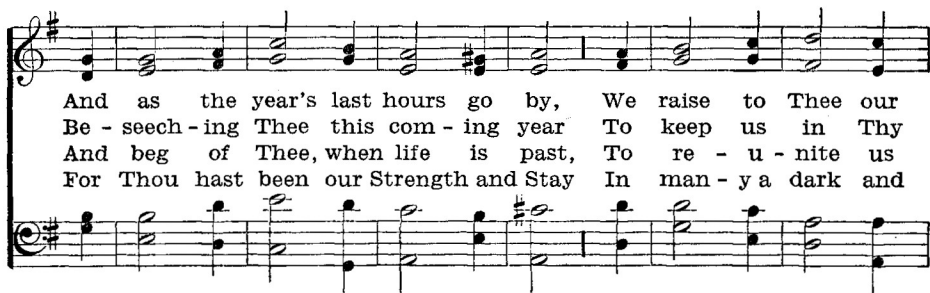
Nikolaus Decius, 1539, asc.



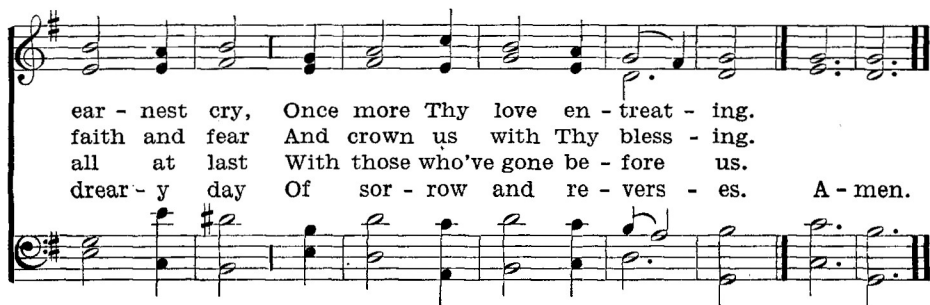
1 A - cross the sky the shades of night This New Year's Eve are fleet - ing.  
2 Be - fore the cross sub - dued we bow, To Thee our prayers ad - dress - ing,  
3 And while we pray, we lift our eyes To dear ones gone be - fore us,  
4 We gath - er up in this brief hour The mem - 'ry of Thy mer - cies:



We deck Thine al - tar, Lord, with light, In sol - emn wor - ship meet - ing;  
Re - count - ing all Thy mer - cies now, And all our sins con - fess - ing;  
Safe home with Thee in Par - a - dise, Whose peace de - scend - eth o'er us;  
Thy won - drous goodness, love, and pow'r Our grate - ful song re - hears - es;



And as the year's last hours go by, We raise to Thee our  
Be - seech - ing Thee this com - ing year To keep us in Thy  
And beg of Thee, when life is past, To re - u - nite us  
For Thou hast been our Strength and Stay In man - y a dark and



ear - nest cry, Once more Thy love en - treat - ing.  
faith and fear And crown us with Thy bless - ing.  
all at last With those who've gone be - fore us.  
drear - y day Of sor - row and re - vers - es. A - men.

# WS 716 – 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 - rejoice! Re-joyce! With  
 how He shed His in - fant blood. Re - rejoice! Re-joyce! With  
 Name of names for us He bore. Re - rejoice! Re-joyce! With  
 vol - ume of a whole year's needs. Re - rejoice! 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!

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.

6 "All glory be to God on high,  
 And peace on earth!" the angels cry.  
 Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace  
 Another year of grace.

# TLH 125 – The Old Year Now hath Passed Away

John 15: 4

Das alte Jahr vergangen ist

Johann Steuerlein, 1588, asc.

Tr., Catherine Winkworth, 1863

L. M

Herr Jesu Christ, dich

"Cantionale Germanicum"

Dresden, 1628



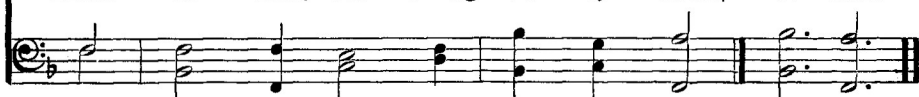
1 The old year now hath passed a-way; We thank Thee, O our  
2 We pray Thee, O e - ter - nal Son, Who with the Fa - ther  
3 Take not Thy sav - ing Word a - way, Our souls' true com - fort,



God, to - day That Thou hast kept us through the year  
reign'st as One, To guard and rule Thy Chris - ten - dom  
staff, and stay. A - bid with us and keep us free



When dan - ger and dis - tress were near.  
Through all the a - ges yet to come.  
From er - rors, fol - l'wing on - ly Thee. A - men.



- 4 Oh, help us to forsake all sin,  
A new and holier course begin!  
Mark not what once was done amiss;  
A happier, better year be this,
- 5 Wherein as Christians we may live  
Or die in peace that Thou canst give,  
To rise again when Thou shalt come  
And enter Thine eternal home.
- 6 There shall we thank Thee and adore  
With all the angels evermore.  
Lord Jesus Christ, increase our faith  
To praise Thy name through life and death.

# TLH 123 (1-4, 6, 8) - Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

C. M.

Ps. 90

Isaac Watts, 1719, ab.

St. Anne

William Croft, 1708



1 Our 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. A - men.



6 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
Bears all its sons away;  
They fly forgotten as a dream  
Dies at the opening day.

8 Our God, our Help in ages past,  
Our Hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our Guard while troubles last  
And our eternal Home!

