


*Happy New Year*



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

PSALM 98:1, KJV

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## 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. As most years of our lives, this past one has likely been a year of joys and a year of sadness. There have been days when all has worked out well and days when it seems nothing could go right. We have laughed at times, cried at times, contemplated at times, and sometimes just sat back in wonder at life. Such is life in this imperfect world. Yet in the midst of uncertainty we have turned 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 for our failures. May the Lord bless our meditation and grant us a blessed New Year – connected with Jesus Christ, our Savior.

### ✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

#### Hymn

TLH 112 (1-3) – To God the Anthem Raising

#### Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

#### Opening Sentences

Psalm 51:15; 70:1; 90:1, 8, 12, 14

**P** O Lord, open my lips,

**C** and my mouth will declare your praise.

**P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me!

**C** O LORD, make haste to help me!

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

**C** in all generations.

**P** You have set our iniquities before you,

**C** our secret sins in the light of your presence.

**P** So teach us to number our days

**C** that we may get a heart of wisdom.

**P** Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,

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

#### Hymn

TLH 112 (4-6) – To God the Anthem Raising

## ✠ The Service of the Word ✠

### Salutation

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

### Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray...

... who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## ✠ Review and Remember ✠

### We Remember the Birth of Jesus and our Christmas Celebration

#### Scripture Reading

Luke 1:31-33; 2:7-11,19

And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.

### We Remember Jesus Revealed in His Epiphany as the Son of God by His Great Miracles

## **Scripture Reading**

Matthew 8:24-26; 8:2-3; 15:22,28;  
John 11:43-45; Matthew 15:30-31

And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea, so that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him, saying, "Save us, Lord; we are perishing." And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. And behold, a leper came to him and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean." And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly. When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him. And great crowds came to him, bringing with them the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute, and many others, and they put them at his feet, and he healed them, so that the crowd wondered, when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled healthy, the lame walking, and the blind seeing. And they glorified the God of Israel.

## **Favorite Advent/Christmas/Epiphany Hymns**

### **We Remember Jesus Sacrificed for Our Sins**

## **Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 53:4-6; John 19:30

Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

## **Favorite Lenten Hymns**

## **We Remember the Joy of Celebrating Easter**

### **Scripture Reading**

Matthew 28:5-8; John 11:25-26

But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.”

### **Favorite Easter Hymns**

## **We Remember our Lord’s Ascending to Heaven with All Power and Glory**

### **Scripture Reading**

Acts 1:9-11; Ephesians 1:20-23

And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” [God] raised [Christ] from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

## **We Remember Pentecost and the Work of the Holy Spirit in Us**

### **Scripture Reading**

Acts 2:1-4,38; 1 Corinthians 12:14; 12:3

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit

gave them utterance. And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.

## **Favorite Ascension/Pentecost/Trinity Hymns**

### **We Remember the Preaching of God’s Word in Our Church, Those Who Were Baptized this Year, Our Own Baptism, and the Lord’s Supper**

**Scripture Reading**      2 Timothy 3:15-17; Matthew 28:19; John 3:5-6;  
Titus 3:5-6; 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

From childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior. For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

## **Favorite Hymns**

## General Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

**☒ 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.**

### ✠ The Service of the Sacrament ✠

#### Exhortation

Dearly beloved: Since we intend to come to the Lord's Supper, it is proper that we examine ourselves carefully as Saint Paul encourages us, "Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:28). For Christ instituted this Holy Supper for the special comfort and strengthening of those who humbly confess their sins and hunger and thirst after righteousness.

But if we examine ourselves in this way, we will find nothing but sin and death in us from which we cannot free ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us and has taken our nature upon Himself. In doing this, He won our salvation by fulfilling the will and law of God for us and by suffering death and all that our sins deserved. In order that we might grow stronger in our faith through which we also serve God with lives of love, Christ has instituted this sacrament of Holy Communion, in which He feeds us with His body and gives us His blood to drink. Therefore, whoever eats of this bread and drinks of this cup, firmly believing the words of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him, and has forgiveness, life and salvation.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, proclaiming His death, that He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. At the same time we thank Him for all He has done for us, take up our cross and follow Him, and, according to His command, love one another even as He loved us. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we all partake of this one bread and drink this one cup.

## Confession and Absolution

**P** I now ask you before God, who searches the heart:

**P** Do you sincerely confess that you have sinned against God and deserved His wrath and punishment? Then declare so by saying: I do confess.

**C** **I do confess.**

**P** Truly, you should so confess, for the Holy Scriptures declare: “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.” (1 John 1:8).

**P** Do you repent of all your sins committed in thought, word, and deed? Then declare so by saying: I do repent.

**C** **I do repent.**

**P** Truly, you should so repent, as did the penitent sinners: King David, who prayed for a contrite heart; Peter, who wept bitterly; the sinful woman; the prodigal son; and others.

**P** Do you sincerely believe that God, by grace, for Jesus’ sake, will forgive you all your sins? Then declare so by saying: I do believe.

**C** **I do believe.**

**P** Truly, you should so believe, for Scripture declares: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16).

**P** Do you promise that, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, you will from this time on amend your sinful life? Then declare so by saying: I do promise.

**C** **I do promise.**

**P** Truly, you should so promise, for Christ, the Lord, says: “Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” (Matt. 5:16).

**P** Finally, do you believe that through me, a called servant of God, you will receive the forgiveness of all your sins? Then declare so by saying: I do believe.

**C** **I do believe.**

**P** Truly, you should so believe, as the Scripture tells us, “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” (Matthew 16:19).



**P** May it be to you as you believe. Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the place and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Words of Institution

### Pax Domini

Peace of the Lord

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

**C** Amen.

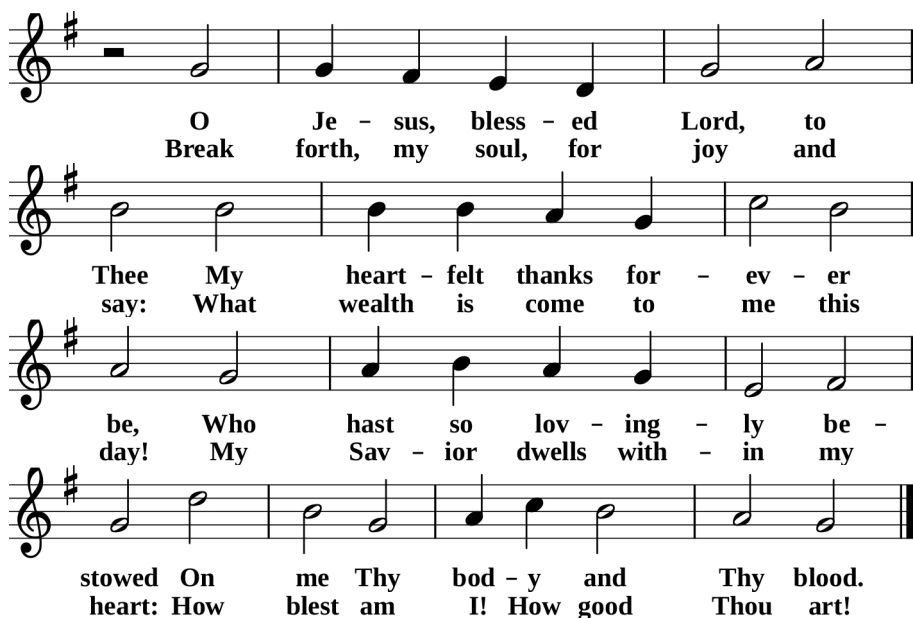
## Distribution

*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!*



## Post-Communion Canticle

TLH 309



O Je - sus, bless - ed for Lord, to  
Break forth, my soul, for joy and  
Thee My heart - felt thanks for - ev - er  
say: What wealth is come to me this  
be, Who hast so lov - ing - ly be -  
day! My Sav - ior dwells with - in my  
stowed On me Thy bod - y and Thy blood.  
heart: How blest am I! How good Thou art!

## Post-Communion Prayer

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks, almighty God, that You have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it You will strengthen our faith in You and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, 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 to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn

TLH 123 – Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

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