

New Life Ev. Lutheran Church Lake Zurich, IL

...rooted in the word, growing in faith, reaching out to our uprooted world.

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New Year's Service (observed) January 2, 2022

A warm welcome to those who are visiting us today. You may hang your coat in the entry way of the church. The bathrooms are located in the basement of this building. Before you go home today, please sign our guest book located on the podium in the entry way. Also, refreshments are served in the basement after our service this morning. We invite you to join us for something to eat and drink.

Our lower level is wired for sound. If you need to take your child out during the service, you won't miss any of the sermon.

In the unlikely event of an emergency during this morning's service, you can exit the building using the main entryway or the exit to the right of the chancel. Our building does have a fire alarm system which is wired directly to the fire department. Remember, we follow the "Run, Hide, Fight" response in an emergency.

BEFORE SERVICE PRAYER Almighty God, I thank You for all the blessings You have given me in the past year. You permit me this day to celebrate the entrance into another new year of grace. Abide with me and bless each day. Lead me to trust firmly in You and to dedicate this entire year to You. As I face new opportunities, new challenges and new problems, guide me to walk in Your ways and carry out Your will. I ask this for the sake of Jesus my Savior. To You be honor, glory and praise. Amen.

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PASTOR'S WELCOME

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN CW 368 “Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year”

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Creator of the heavens and the earth

People: we praise You now and forevermore.

Pastor: Redeemer of nations

People: we praise You now and forevermore.

Pastor: Sanctifier of believing hearts

People: we praise You now and forevermore. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

Pastor: There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born,

People: a time to die

Pastor: a time to plant

People: a time to harvest,

Pastor: a time to kill

People: a time to heal,

Pastor: a time to tear down,

People: a time to rebuild,

Pastor: a time to cry

People: a time to laugh

Pastor: a time to grieve

People: a time to dance

Pastor: a time to scatter stones

People: a time to gather stones

Pastor: a time to embrace

People: a time to turn away

Pastor: a time to search

People: a time to lose

Pastor: a time to keep

People: a time to throw away
Pastor: a time to tear
People: a time to mend
Pastor: a time to be quiet
People: a time to speak up
Pastor: a time to love
People: a time to hate
Pastor: a time for war
People: a time for peace. *Ecclesiastes 3*

A TIME TO GRIEVE (Admitting guilt and expressing sorrow for sin.)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us examine ourselves before God at the close of the year, confessing our sin and seeking His forgiveness. For having set our minds on earthly things and not on things above,

People: forgive us, O Lord.

Pastor: For being slothful, for prioritizing inefficiently, pursuing the trivial and petty rather than the meaningful and important,

People: forgive us, O Lord.

Pastor: For being envious of others, discontented with the material gifts that come from Your bountiful goodness,

People: forgive us, O Lord.

Pastor: For being greedy and selfish, desiring material wealth, significant stature, instant gratification, and all things that proceed from human endeavors and success,

People: forgive us, O Lord.

Pastor: For expressing unjust anger and rage, and being unable to harness our emotions which frequently damage and manipulate others,

People: forgive us, O Lord.

Pastor: For being loveless to our family and neighbors, withholding words of encouragement and praise,

People: forgive us, O Lord.

Pastor: For willfully expressing pride and arrogance, suppressing humility and graciousness,

People: forgive us, O Lord.

A TIME TO BE SILENT (Reflection upon sin)

A TIME TO HEAL (God's forgiveness)

Pastor: Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death. *2 Corinthians 7:10*

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. *Romans 8:1*

In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. *Romans 8:37*

The blood of Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. *1 John 1:7*

Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Be of good cheer! Your sins are forgiven. *Matthew 9:2*

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE CW 72 "O Lord, Our Father, Thanks And Praise"

**O Lord, our Father, thanks and praise
In this new year we render,
For ev'ry evil had to flee
Before You, our defender.
Our life was nourished, we were fed
With rich supplies of daily bread,
And peace reigned in our borders.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, our thanks and praise
In this new year we render;
Your reign has kept Your people free,
Has shown Your mercies tender.
You have redeemed us with Your blood;
You are our joy, our only good,
In life and death our Savior.**

(continued...)

**O Holy Spirit, thanks and praise
In this new year we render,
For You have led our eyes to see
Your truth in all its splendor
And thus enkindled from above
Within our hearts true faith and love
And other Christian virtues.**

**Our faithful God, we cry to You:
Still bless us with Your favor,
Blot out all our iniquity,
And hide our sins forever.
Grant us a happy, good new year
And, when the hour of death draws near,
A peaceful, blest departure.**

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

+ WORD +

A TIME TO PLANT (Proclaiming and hearing the Word of God.)

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 51:1-9 *(God will bring justice to the nations in 2022 chiefly through the ministry of His Law and Gospel, as every year.)*

"Listen to Me, you who pursue righteousness
and who seek the LORD:
Look to the rock from which you were cut
and to the quarry from which you were hewn;

² look to Abraham, your father,
and to Sarah, who gave you birth.
When I called him he was only one man,
and I blessed him and made him many.

³ The LORD will surely comfort Zion
and will look with compassion on all her ruins;
He will make her deserts like Eden,
her wastelands like the garden of the LORD.
Joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the sound of singing.

⁴ "Listen to Me, My people;
hear Me, My nation:
Instruction will go out from Me;
My justice will become a light to the nations.

⁵ My righteousness draws near speedily,
My salvation is on the way,
and My arm will bring justice to the nations.
The islands will look to Me
and wait in hope for My arm.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
look at the earth beneath;
the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment
and its inhabitants die like flies.
But My salvation will last forever,
My righteousness will never fail.

⁷ "Hear Me, you who know what is right,
you people who have taken My instruction to heart:
Do not fear the reproach of mere mortals
or be terrified by their insults.

⁸ For the moth will eat them up like a garment;
the worm will devour them like wool.
But My righteousness will last forever,
My salvation through all generations."

⁹ Awake, awake, arm of the LORD,
clothe yourself with strength!
Awake, as in days gone by,
as in generations of old. (NIV 2011)

Pastor: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

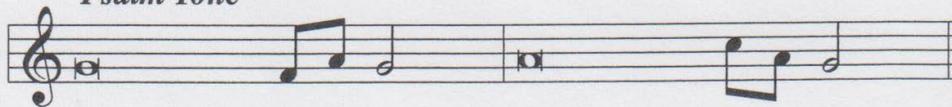
PSALM Psalm 96

Refrain



A Sav - ior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

Psalm Tone



Sing to the LORD, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.

Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth.

Refrain

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;
let the sea resound, and all that is in it;

let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them.
Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy,

for he comes to judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples in his truth.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

EPISTLE Galatians 4:1-7 (*A reading for Christmas and New Year. "When the TIME had fully come, God sent His Son..."*)

What I am saying is that as long as an heir is underage, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. ² The heir is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. ³ So also, when we were underage, we were in slavery under the elemental spiritual forces of the world. ⁴ But when the set time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. ⁶ Because you are His sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are His child, God has made you also an heir. (NIV 2011)

Pastor: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Stand

GOSPEL Luke 13:6-9 (*God is promising one more year of grace and patience for many in 2022.*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

People: Praise to You, O Lord.

⁶ Then He told this parable: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. ⁷ So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?'

⁸ "'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'" (NIV 2011)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Glory to You, O Christ.

Sit

HYMN (old) CW 71 “The Old Year Now Has Passed Away”

**The old year now has passed away;
We thank You, O our God, today
That You have kept us through the year
When danger and distress were near.**

**We pray You, O eternal Son,
Who with the Father reigns as one,
To guard and rule Your Christendom
Through all the ages yet to come.**

**Take not Your saving Word away,
Which lights and cheers our souls each day.
Abide with us and keep us free
From error and hypocrisy.**

**Oh, help us to forsake all sin,
A new and holier life begin!
Forgive the old year's sins, and bless
The new year with true happiness,**

**Wherein as Christians we may live
Or die in peace that You can give,
To rise again when You will come
And enter Your eternal home.**

**There shall we thank You and adore
With all the angels evermore.
Lord Jesus Christ, increase our faith
To praise Your name through life and death.**

SERMON

CREED (First Article of the Apostles' Creed with Luther's Explanation)

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

What does this mean?

I believe that God created me and all that exists, and that He gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my mind and all my abilities. And I believe that God still preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, property and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life.

God also preserves me by defending me against all danger, guarding and protecting me from all evil.

All this God does only because He is my good and merciful Father in heaven, and not because I have earned or deserved it. For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

A TIME TO LOVE (Returning a portion of our gifts to God.)

OFFERING

A TIME TO SPEAK AND LISTEN (Prayers for the people of God.)

PRAYERS

Pastor: Lord God, eternal Father, hear our prayers this day that we bring before You. Grant Your blessing to the whole Church throughout the world that Your ministers may proclaim Your truth and love courageously, that all of Your people grow in a confident and sure faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Cause leaders of all nations to see themselves as instruments in Your hands that they might encourage and seek to preserve peace and welfare for all people.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Grant Your blessing to this congregation that we may display Your strong love in our acts of mercy for one another and to those in our community. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Give peace, comfort, and respite this night to all who are sick or in any need or adversity. Be their guard and strong defense. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We remember before You all those who have gone before us in the one true faith and are at rest in You. Keep us mindful of our continued unity with them in the mysterious body of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. In that day, may we also be numbered with all those in eternity who look upon Your face in glory. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we join in praying...

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray.

Eternal God, we commit to Your mercy and forgiveness the year having ended.
People: We commend to Your blessing and love the times yet to come.

Pastor: In the new year, abide among us with Your Holy Spirit
People: that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Pastor: who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord said to Moses, "Tell Aaron and his sons,
'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:
'The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn His face toward you and + give you peace." '

People: "So they will put My name on the Israelites, and I will bless
them." **Amen.** *Numbers 6:22-27*

CLOSING HYMN (old) CW 75 "Father, Let Me Dedicate"

**Father, let me dedicate All this year to You,
In whate'er my earthly state, In whate'er I do.
Not from sorrow, pain, or care Freedom dare I claim;
This alone shall be my prayer: Glorify Your name.**

**Can a child presume to choose Where or how to live?
Can a father's love refuse All the best to give?
More You give me ev'ry day Than the best can claim;
Help me trust You that I may Glorify Your name.**

**If in mercy You prolong Joys that now are mine,
If on life serene and fair Brighter rays may shine,
Let my glad heart, while it sings, You in all proclaim
And, whate'er the future brings, Glorify Your name.**

**If You have for me a cross And its shadow come,
Turning all my gain to loss, Shrouding heart and home,
Let me think how Your dear Son To His glory came
And in deepest woe pray on: "Glorify Your name."**

ANNOUNCEMENTS