

Grace Lutheran Church of Wayne, Nebraska

New Year's Eve

Confessional & Communion Service

December 31, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

So, teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Psalm 90:12

PRESERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELL

♪ **OPENING HYMN: "Across the Sky the Shades of Night"**

LSB 899

- 1** **Across the sky the shades of night
This New Year's Eve are fleeting.
We deck Your altar, Lord, with light, In solemn worship meeting;
And as the year's last hours go by, We raise to You our earnest cry,
Once more Your love entreating.**

- 2** **Before the cross subdued we bow, To You our prayer addressing,
Recounting all Your mercies now, And all our sins confessing;
Beseeching You this coming year To keep us in Your faith and fear
And crown us with Your blessing.**

- 3** **We gather up in this brief hour The mem'ry of Your mercies:
Your wondrous goodness, love, and pow'r
Our grateful song rehearses;
For You have been our strength and stay
In many_a dark and dreary day Of sorrow and reverses.**

- 4** **We now remember, as we pray, Our dear ones in Your caring
Who brightly shine in endless day, Past death and all despairing.
At our life's end, Lord, as Your own,
Bring us with them around Your throne, The joys of heaven sharing.**

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

Stand

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen**
- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- C** **make haste to help me, O Lord.**
- P** The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit.
- C** **A broken and contrite heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise.**

PSALMODY: Psalm 90:1–12

- P** Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
- C** **Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**
- P** You return man to dust and say, “Return, O children of man!”
- C** **For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.**
- P** You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning:
- C** **in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.**
- P** For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.
- C** **You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.**
- P** For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
- C** **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.**
- P** Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?
- C** **So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.**
- C** **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.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** 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.

C Amen.

Sit

FIRST READING

Romans 8:31b–39

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He 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? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who 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.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

♪ O God, Our Help in Ages Past

LSB 733

**1 O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:**

**2 Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.**

**3 Before the hills in order stood Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.**

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Stand

GOSPEL READING

Luke 12:35-40

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

C 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.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

♪ O God, Our Help in Ages Past

LSB 733 sts. 4–6

**4 A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising 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: “More Than Conquerors”

Pastor Erik

Stand

ORDER OF CONFESSION

The Lutheran Hymnal p. 48

P Now, I ask you before God, who searcheth the heart: Do you sincerely confess that you have sinned against God and deserved His wrath and punishment?

C I do confess.

P Verily we should confess; for Holy Scripture declares: “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”

Do you heartily repent of all your sins committed in thought, word and deed?

C I do repent.

P Verily we should 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.

Do you sincerely believe that God, by grace, for Jesus' sake, will forgive you all your sins?

C I do believe.

P Verily we should so believe, for Holy Scripture declares: “God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Do you promise that with the aid of the Holy Ghost you will henceforth amend your sinful life?

C I do promise.

P Verily we should so promise, for Christ the Lord says: “Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

Finally, do you believe that through me, a called servant of God, you will receive the forgiveness of all your sins?

C I do believe.

P As you believe, even so may it be unto you.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

♪ **HYMN RESPONSE: “Jesus Sinners Doth Receive”**

LSB 609 sts. 6-7

**6 Now my conscience is at peace; From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release And my ev’ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.**

**7 Jesus sinners doth receive; Also I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave: Jesus sinners doth receive.**

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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 that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. 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.

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, 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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Those with mobility issues who would prefer to receive the sacrament at the pew are encouraged to remain standing at the conclusion of the Agnus Dei.

Those coming to the altar will be welcomed and dismissed half table by half table.

It is helpful to fill the table from the wall toward the middle on both sides.

Used individual cups can be left in the holes in the altar rail.

♪ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: "Thou Who Roll'st the Year Around" (to tune Müde Bin)

- 1 Thou who roll'st the year around, Crowned with mercies large and free,
Rich Thy gifts to us abound; Warm our praise shall rise to Thee.**
- 2 Kindly to our worship bow While our grateful thanks we tell,
That, sustained by Thee, we now Bid the parting year farewell.**
- 3 All its numbered days are sped, All its busy scenes are o'er,
All its joys forever fled, All its sorrows felt no more.**
- 4 Mingled with the eternal past, Its remembrance shall decay,
Yet to be revived at last At the solemn Judgment Day.**
- 5 All our follies, Lord, forgive; Cleanse us from each guilty stain.
Let Thy grace within us live That we spend not years in vain.**
- 6 Then when life's last eve shall come, Happy spirits, may we fly
To our everlasting home, To our Father's house on high!**

♪ "Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love"

LSB 900

- 1 Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Name all other names above,
Unto which must ev'ry knee Bow in deep humility.**
- 2 Jesus! Name decreed of old, To the maiden mother told,
Kneeling in her lowly cell, By the angel Gabriel.**
- 3 Jesus! Name of priceless worth To the fallen of the earth
For the promise that it gave, "Jesus shall His people save."**
- 4 Jesus! Name of mercy mild, Given to the holy Child
When the cup of human woe First He tasted here below.**
- 5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved Burst their fetters and are saved.**
- 6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee Helpless, O our God, to Thee.**

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♪ **POST-COMMUNION HYMN: “Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace”** *LSB 937*

- 1 Lord, bid Your servant go in peace, Your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation’s dawn, This child so long foretold.**
- 2 This is the Savior of the world, The Gentiles’ promised light,
God’s glory dwelling in our midst, The joy of Israel.**
- 3 With saints of old, with saints to come, To You we lift our voice;
To Father, Son, and Spirit blest Be honor, love, and praise.**

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POST COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

♪ **CLOSING HYMN: “Let Us All with Gladsome Voice”** *LSB 390*

- 1 Let us all with gladsome voice Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice, His own Son hath given.**
- 2 To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sadness,
That with Him in heav’n’s fair homes We may reign in gladness.**
- 3 We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore Here on earth and yonder.**
- 4 Christ, our Lord and Savior dear, Be Thou ever near us.
Grant us now a glad new year. Amen, Jesus, hear us.**

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