

Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

LSB 390

Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

Confession and Absolution

**P** As we gather in the name of our holy God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - we are immediately struck with the reality of our own sinfulness. We stand on the end of the old year and the beginning of a new year. In the past twelve months we have experienced joy and sorrow. We have stood at the altar to receive the gifts of God and we have gathered at weddings, funerals, and committal services, thanking God for His temporal and eternal promises. Let us make our confession to God, trusting in these very same promises.

**C** We confess to You, heavenly Father, that we are sinners in Your presence. We have sinned against You in many ways, some of which we are aware, and yet there are many sins we did not even recognize. Forgive us, Father, not because we are worthy, but because we trust in the promises You have made to us in Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**P** God has been faithful in the past and God will be faithful in the future, but in particular we are grateful that God is faithful now - hearing our confession and granting us forgiveness. His promise to us is that if we confess our sins He hears and forgives so that we may be assured and comforted in our hearts. Therefore, we rely on this proclamation of the Lord's forgiveness. I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you and in the stead and by the command of my 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.

## Kyrie (spoken)

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

**C Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the daily growth of the Church of God in both freedom and oppression, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For this holy house and for all who gather here in joys and sorrows to offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

## Psalm/Hymn *Psalm 90:1–12; “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” LSB 733*

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

**P** Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

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

**P** Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.

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

**P** You return man to dust and say, “Return, O children of man!”

**C Thy word commands our flesh to dust: “Return, ye sons of men!”  
All nations rose from earth at first And turn to earth again.**

**P** For a thousand years in Your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.

**C** **A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone,  
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.**

**P** You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning: in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

**C** **Like flow'ry fields the nations stand, Pleased with the morning light;  
The flow'rs beneath the mower's hand Lie with'ring ere 'tis night.**

**P** For we are brought to an end by Your anger; by Your wrath we are dismayed. You have set our iniquities before You, our secret sins in the light of Your presence. For all our days pass away under Your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh. 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.

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

**P** Who considers the power of Your anger and Your wrath according to the fear of You? So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

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

### **Salutation and Prayer of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

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

**P** Let us pray.

Eternal God, You have sustained us through the toils of the year now ending.

**C** **Give us such an awareness of Your presence in the new  
year that we can live confidently through each day no  
matter its joys or sorrows,**

**P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Epistle

*Philippians 2:1–13*

<sup>1</sup>So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup>And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup>for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 12:35–40*

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

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>35</sup>[Jesus said:] “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.

Across the Sky the Shades of Night

*LSB 899*

## Sermon

### 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

## Offering & Rite of Friendship

### Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*LSB 805*

Δ1 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### 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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the fullness of time You sent forth Your Son, born under the law to redeem us from the law and to open to us eternity with you. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

*(Tune: LSB 733)*

**C** O holy, holy, holy Lord, The God by all adored,  
From heav'n above and earth below To You all praises flow.

**Hosanna to the One who comes In God the Father's name.  
They with the Holy Spirit reign, To endless years the same.**

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### Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You did not leave Your people without hope, but promised a Redeemer through the ages and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to live out His days as one of us, to bear our sin, and to be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation that comes new to us as each day dawns.

Aware of the passage of time this day, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood today and at each celebration of the Lord's Supper until we gather with all the faithful at the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. 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

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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

#### Pax Domini

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

**C** Amen.

#### Agnus Dei

*(Tune: LSB 733)*

**C** **Christ, Lamb of God, to You we pray; Take all our sins away,  
Grant us Your peace in the new year, Peace in our hearts this day.**

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**Your Table I Approach  
Abide, O Dearest Jesus**

*LSB 628  
LSB 919*

#### Post-Communion Hymn

*(Tune: LSB 733)*

1 Lord, let Your servants go in peace; Your mercies never cease.  
When time had run in full its course, He came, salvation's Source.

- 2 We've seen Your promise kept, O Lord, In the incarnate Word,  
Your people's Glory, nations' Light, In view of human sight.
- 3 To Father and the Spirit sing, And to the Christ, our King;  
Let new year bells their praises ring Whate'er the days may bring.

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## Post-Communion Thanksgiving

**P** Let us pray.

We thank You heavenly Father for the gift of forgiveness and for the life which You have granted to us in the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus. As the one year draws to a close and another begins, we have the assurance of Your continued blessings in this life for You have granted to us eternal life. Strengthen us in faith that we may trust Your guiding hand in the days to come, even as You have shown Your faithfulness and love to us in the days past. We thank and praise You in and through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Benediction

**P** The blessing of almighty God—the Father who called all things into existence, ✠ the Son who entered time and space to redeem us for eternity, and the Holy Spirit who strengthens us in good times and bad—be upon you, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Go, My Children, with My Blessing**

*LSB 922*

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