

Monday, December 31st, 2018

New Years' Eve 7:00pm



SAINT MICHAEL'S

LUTHERAN CHURCH • LCMS

W I N C H E S T E R  T E X A S

Worship God. | Love One Another. | Serve All People.

700 Frio Street
Winchester, Texas 78945

Office: 979-242-3444
Pastor's Cell: 979-966-8036

Rev. Nate Hill – Pastor
Mark McClain – Minister of Music
www.stmichaelswinchester.org
pastor@stmichaelswinchester.org
secretary@stmichaelswinchester.org

Holy Communion at Saint Michael's

This evening we are again privileged to participate in the miraculous Sacrament of the Altar! The Bible clearly teaches that the cup of blessing which we receive at the Lord's Supper is a participation in the blood of Christ and the bread which we break is a participation in the body of Christ (1 Cor. 10:16). Paul also says: "Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself." (1 Cor. 11:28-29).

It is necessary, therefore, that we take the Lord's Supper seriously. At the Lord's Supper, we truly receive the real body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, in with and under the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of our sins.

Partaking of the Lord's Supper is also a sacred sign of the unity of faith and doctrine of those receiving it together. Therefore anyone who is not yet instructed, in doubt, or who holds a confession of faith or denominational affiliation other than that of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, is asked to speak with Pastor Nate before partaking of the Lord's Supper.

If you will be communing today we ask that you examine yourself by asking:

1. Do I repent of all of my sins, admit that I am a condemned sinner, and need the forgiveness of God?
2. Do I trust that the life, suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ have earned my forgiveness?
3. Do I believe that the real body and blood presence of Jesus is miraculously united with the consecrated bread and wine of the Lord's Supper?
4. Do I intend to turn away from my sinful ways with the help of the Holy Spirit and live from now on in "peace along with those who call on the Lord?" (2 Timothy 2:22)

If your answer is "yes" to these questions; and if you are member of this or another LCMS congregation or have already spoken to Pastor Nate about receiving the Lord's Supper, then we invite and encourage you to join our fellowship at the Lord's Table.

If you will not be receiving the Lord's Supper this evening, you are still invited to come forward during the distribution. Simply leave your hands at your side when the pastor comes by with the bread, and he will give you a verbal blessing.

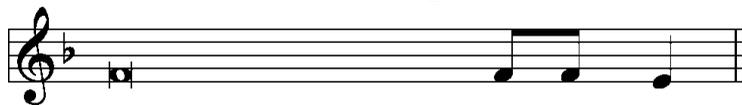
For those who are sensitive to alcohol, the cups in the center of the communion tray contain non-alcoholic white wine.

Evening Prayer

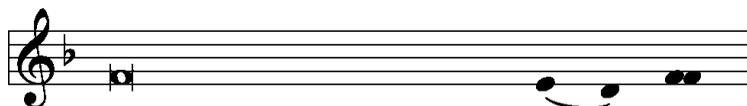
A Service of Light



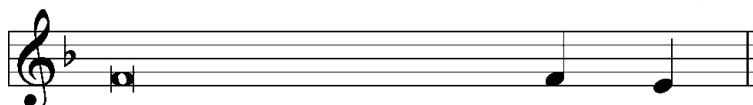
L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,



C the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



L Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,



C and the day is almost o - ver.



L Let Your light scatter the dark - ness



C and il - lu - mine Your Church.

Phos Hilaron

Hymn of Light



L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:



C of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,



bles - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the

set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.

We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:

You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -

ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:

the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

Thanksgiving for Light

L Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the u - ni - verse,

who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of

fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ;

may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;



for You are mer - ci - ful, and You love Your whole cre - a - tion



and we, Your creatures, glo - ri - fy You, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it.



C A - men.

Psalmody

Psalm 141



C Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice



when I cry to You. **C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.



II Set a watch be - fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.



I Let not my heart in - cline to an - y e - vil thing;



let me not be oc - cu - pied in wick - ed - ness with e - vil - do - ers.



II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref - uge.



Strip me not of my life. **C** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and



to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in



the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,



the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

L Let us pray.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C Amen.

¹Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.

²Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

³You return man to dust
and say, “Return, O children of man!”

⁴For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as a watch in the night.

⁵You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning:

⁶in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.

⁷For we are brought to an end by your anger;
by your wrath we are dismayed.

⁸You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.

⁹For all our days pass away under your wrath;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

¹⁰The 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.

¹¹Who considers the power of your anger,
and your wrath according to the fear of you?

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

Office Hymn

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”



1 O 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.

- 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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Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 30:15-17

A A reading from Isaiah, the thirtieth chapter.

¹⁵For thus said the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel,
“In returning and rest you shall be saved;
 in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.”
But you were unwilling, ¹⁶ and you said,
“No! We will flee upon horses”;
 therefore you shall flee away;
and, “We will ride upon swift steeds”;
 therefore your pursuers shall be swift.
¹⁷A thousand shall flee at the threat of one;
 at the threat of five you shall flee,

till you are left
like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain,
like a signal on a hill.

A O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Romans 8:31b-39

A A reading from Romans, the eighth chapter.

^{31b}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.

A O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Reading

Luke 12:35-40

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

³⁵“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** In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.
C **But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.**

Sermon

Rev. Nate Hill

Confession and Absolution

- P** Beloved in the Lord, it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, in which He strengthens our faith by giving us His body to eat and His blood to drink. Therefore, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do, for this holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God’s wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you.” It is as if He said, “I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat.”

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” Again, it is as if He said, “I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink.”

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life. We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification.

Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup.

For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

C Amen.

P Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins to Him, imploring Him for the sake of His Son Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P May God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen.

P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

C Yes.

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

Note: The pastor absolves each person individually at the altar, laying his hand on the shoulder of each and pronouncing the following absolution:

P 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.

Note: After all have returned to their seats, the pastor speaks this blessing:

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ✠ peace.

C Amen.

Canticle

Magnificat



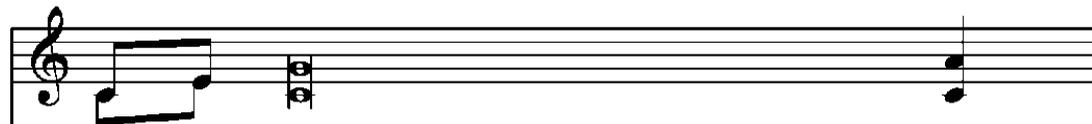
C My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -



joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag - ni - fies the

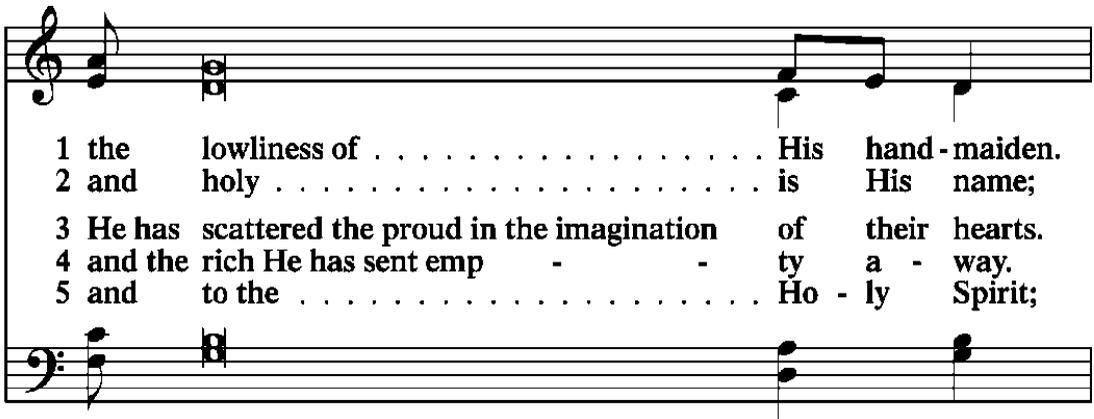


Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

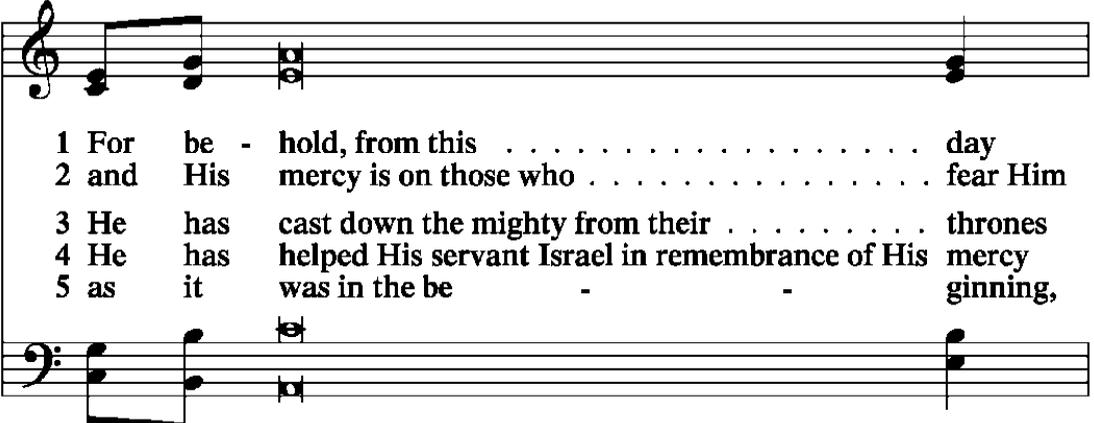


- 1 For _____ He has re - garded
- 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
- 3 He has shown strength with His arm;
- 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
- 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son

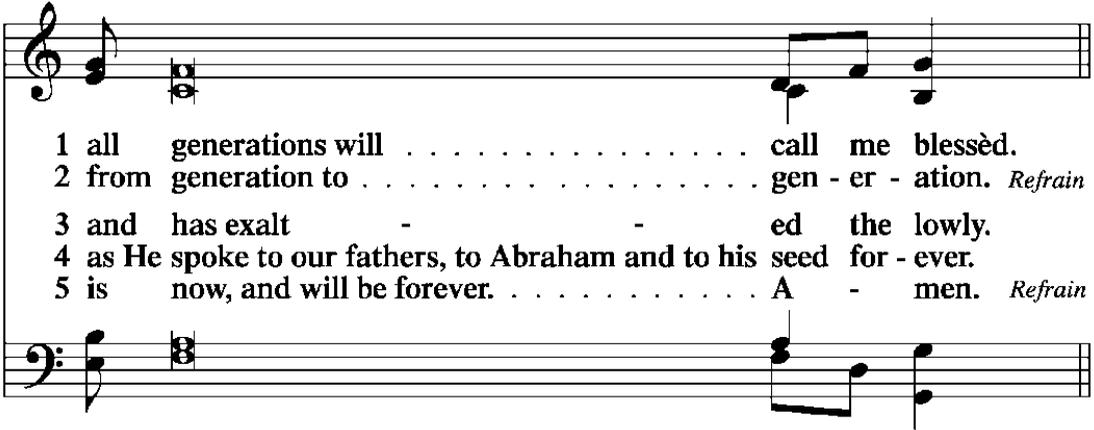




1 the lowliness of His hand-maiden.
 2 and holy is His name;
 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
 4 and the rich He has sent empty a way.
 5 and to the Holy Spirit;



1 For behold, from this day
 2 and His mercy is on those who fear Him
 3 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy
 5 as it was in the beginning,



1 all generations will call me blessed.
 2 from generation to generation. *Refrain*
 3 and has exalted the lowly.
 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for ever.
 5 is now, and will be forever. Amen. *Refrain*

Offering

Prayer

P In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, 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 offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For [*names of synodical and district presidents*], for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For [*name of president*], for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

C Alleluia.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord:

P Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

C To You, O Lord

Collect For Peace

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold 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.

Service of the Sacrament

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are 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.

In the beginning You created all things by Your Word; and in the fullness of time Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

Let Your Word made flesh dwell richly among us that, faithfully eating His body and drinking His blood, we may receive the fullness of Your grace and truth in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My \dagger body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”
- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My \dagger blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

The Peace of the Lord

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

Distribution Hymns

LSB 790 – “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

LSB 527 – “O Savior, Precious Savior”

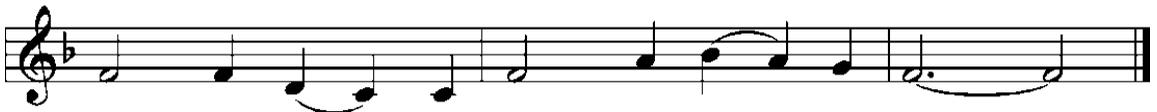
LSB 576 – “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

Hymn After the Distribution “*Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace*”



1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,
2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,
3 With saints of old, with saints to come,

Your word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -
The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing
To You we lift our voice; To Fa - ther, Son, and



va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.
in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.
Spir - it blest Be hon - or, love, and praise.

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Post-Communion Collect

A 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.

Benedicamus



L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction



P The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.



C A - men.

2019

Announcement

Poinsettias: If you purchased a poinsettia to decorate the sanctuary you may take it home anytime between the close of New Years' Eve service and noon on Wednesday, January 9th.

Acknowledgments

Excerpts from Evening Prayer, Corporate Confession and Absolution, & Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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