

December 31st, 2025



Note to our Guests about the Lord's Supper:

We are glad you have come to hear God's Word today with us. Through his Word, the Lord speaks of Jesus' forgiveness to us and his peace fills our hearts.

Today we also celebrate the Lord's Supper, which God describes as a unified joint confession of faith in Jesus. Therefore, we ask that only those who have confessed a unified faith with us through membership in a WELS or ELS congregation come up to receive the Lord's Supper. Thank you for respecting our beliefs based on God's Word.

If you would like to receive the Lord's Supper with us in the future, please speak with one of our pastors.



ST. PAUL

LUTHERAN MINISTRIES

New Year's Eve

Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year

CW 368

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Dialogue for New Year's Eve

Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.

Revelation 21:3

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. *Psalms 90:1-2*

Do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. *2 Peter 3:8*

For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night. *Psalms 90:4*

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. *Hebrews 4:13*

We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. *Psalms 90:7-8*

In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps. *Proverbs 16:9*

Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. *Psalms 90:12*

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. *1 John 4:9-10*

Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. *Psalms 90:14*

Lord, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord.
Renew them in our day, in our time make them known.

Habakkuk 3:2

May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendor to their children. *Psalms 90:16*

God says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. *2 Corinthians 6:2*

May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.
Psalms 90:17

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176

The musical score is written on ten staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score is divided into two systems of five staves each. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system begins with a repeat sign. The lyrics are: 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.'

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his
peo - ple on earth. Lord God,
heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we
wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your
glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. For you a -

lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,

with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



Tune: Marty Haugen

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The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, before whom all generations rise and fall, teach us to think earnestly on the brevity of our lives and the immensity of your goodness. Help us to enter the new year trusting in the name of your Son and walking in the way of his peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:1–8

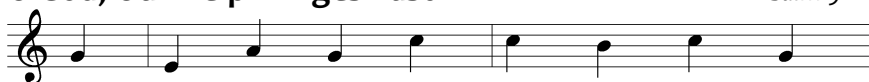
- ¹There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
²a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
³a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
⁴a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
⁵a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
⁶a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
⁷a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
⁸a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

The Word of the Lord.

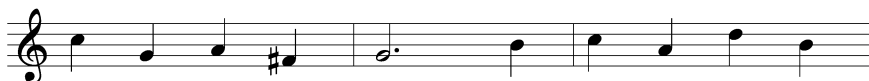
Thanks be to God.

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Psalm 90D



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are



hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the
saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is your
earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing
like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that



storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
you are God, to end - less years the same.
ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an everrolling 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,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, abr., alt.

Tune: William Croft

Text and tune: Public domain

Second Reading & Sermon Text

Hebrews 13:5–8,14

⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

“Never will I leave you;
never will I forsake you.”

⁶So we say with confidence,

“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.
What can mere mortals do to me?”

⁷Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Stand

Psalm 90:1



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Refrain



Lord, you have been our dwell - ing place throughout all gener - a - tions.

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Matthew 25:1–13

⁶“At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

7“Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’

9“‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’”

¹⁰“But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

“Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’

¹²“But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’

¹³“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Across the Sky the Shades of Night

CW 367

Sermon

Pastor Matt Holtz

Stand

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Offering

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

CW 183

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

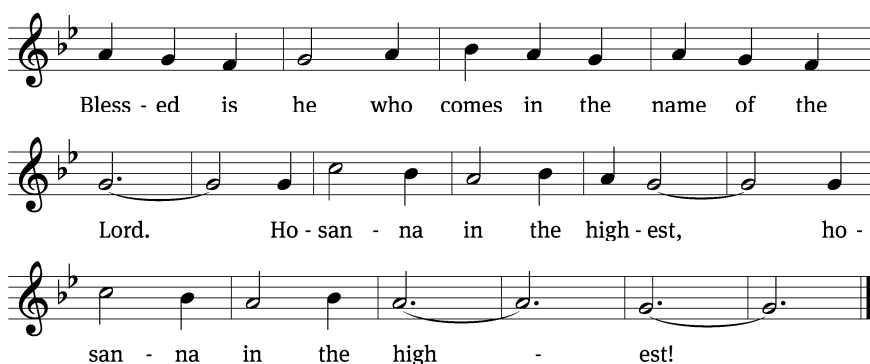
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in blessing his saints of the past has given us assurance and hope that, following their example, we may run the race marked out for us and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 184

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



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Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Jesus, Lamb of God

CW 186

The musical score is written for a single voice part in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first staff is an instrumental introduction. The second and third staves form the first phrase: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.' The fourth and fifth staves form the second phrase: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.' The sixth and seventh staves form the third phrase: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace.' The score ends with a double bar line.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

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Be seated

Distribution

Draw Near

CW 662

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

Abide with Me

CW 783

Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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Worship Notes

Presiding Minister: Matt Holtz

Organist: Janna Zornow

Service Team: Team Waack; AV: Chad Woehler

Altar Guild: Julie Kaepernick