

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Mark Voss - New Years' Service

December 31, 2017

Opening

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

C: Amen.

P: In Holy Baptism, God gives us the Holy Spirit, who works in us both the desire to throw off the slavery of sin and the power to live a new life. May the Lord renew us in body, mind, and spirit.

Opening Hymn - "Joy To the World"

CW 62

Prayer

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you alone are constant and unchanging. You have safely brought us through the changes of time to the end of one year, the beginning of another. We humbly ask you to forgive the sins of the past year. We pray for the grace and renewed zeal to faithfully do your will during the New Year. Be with us and guide us through the saving work of your Spirit.

C: Amen.

Old Testament Lesson – Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 There is a Time for Everything

P: There is a time for everything,

C: and a season for every activity under heaven.

P: A time to be born

C: and a time to die,

P: a time to plant

C: and a time to uproot,

P: a time to kill

C: and a time to heal,

P: a time to tear down

C: and a time to build,

P: a time to weep

C: and a time to laugh,

P: a time to mourn

C: and a time to dance,

P: a time to scatter stones

C: and a time to gather them,

P: a time to embrace

C: and a time to refrain,

P: a time to search

C: and a time to give up,



P: a time to keep
C: and a time to throw away,
P: a time to tear
C: and a time to mend,
P: a time to be silent
C: and a time to speak,
P: a time to love
C: and a time to hate,
P: a time for war
C: and a time for peace.
P: This is the Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm of Day - Psalm 121 on page 112 in Christian Worship

Gospel - Luke 13:6-9 - *A lesson from a fig tree* Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it, but did not find any. 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?' "'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'"

Sermon Hymn - "Christ Be My Leader"

CW 367

God is For Us . . . It's All Good

Romans 8:31-39

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to this? 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, along with him, graciously give us all things?

³³Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.

³⁴Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died--more than that, who was raised to life--
is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or
famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

³⁶As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,
neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,

³⁹neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Confession and Absolution

P: In the name of our God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden. Amen.

All: Almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed by the sins that trouble me and am deeply sorry for them.

Silence for personal confession

P: Jesus says to his people: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this?

C: Yes, I believe.

P: Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

All: O Lord, my God, I called to you for help, and you answered me. I thank you for the love you have shown me in Jesus Christ, my Savior. Through him you have rescued me from the guilt of my sin and given me the peace of forgiveness. Help me fight against temptation, correct whatever wrongs I can, and serve you and those around me with love and good works. In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

P: Go in peace. The Lord be with you.

Exhortation

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us and reconciled us to God and has promised us the power to forgive and love each other. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

All: Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.

Hymn of the Day – "O Lord, Our Father, Thanks and Praise"

CW 72

Offering

Prayer for the New Year and 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.

The Lord's Supper

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

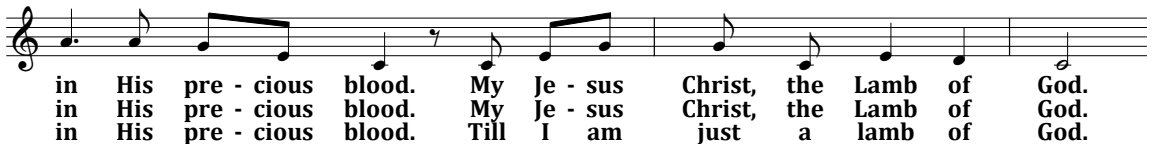
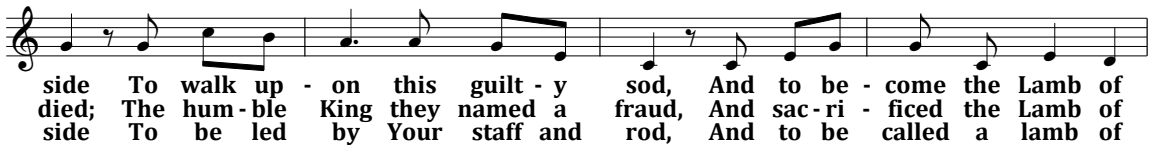
P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

C: **It is good and right to do so.**

Song of the Lamb



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Words of Institution

Distribution and Quiet Meditation

Thanksgiving

Blessing

Closing Hymn - "Let Us All With Gladsome Voice"