



Christ Our Redeemer

New Year's Eve Worship

December 31, 2020 Pastor Tom Engelbrecht

Grace Upon Grace

OPENING HYMN

“Across the Sky the Shades of Night”

CW 69 vv 1-3 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain



A - cross the sky the shades of night This New Year's Eve are
We gath - er up in this brief hour The mem - 'ry of your
Be - fore the cross, sub - dued, we bow, To you our prayers ad -



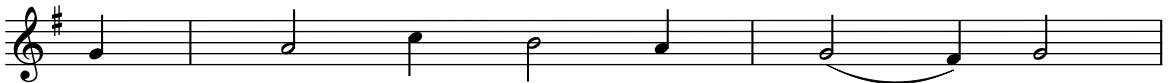
flect - ing We deck your al - tar Lord, with light, In
mer - cies. Your won - drous good - ness, love, and pow'r Our
- dress - ing Re - count - ing All your mer - cies now And



sol - emn wor - ship meet - ing. And, as the year's last
grate - ful song re - hears - es, For you have been our
all our sins con - fess - ing. We ask you, Lord, this



hours go by, We raise to you our ear - nest cry,
strength and stay In man - y a dark and drear - y day
com - ing year To keep us in your faith and fear



Once more your love en - treat - ing.
Of sor - row and re - vers - es.
And crown us with your bless - ing.

Stand

P (Pastor): We are here to worship the one true God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C (Congregation): Almighty Lord God, we have come together to stand in your presence to hear your Word, to worship you.

Remember God

P: My son, do not forget my teachings;

C: But keep my commands in your heart.

P: So then, banish anxiety from your heart and cast off the troubles of your body, for youth and vigor are meaningless;

C: Remember your Creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, "I find no pleasure in them,"

P: Before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars grow dark, and the clouds return after the rain; when the keepers of the house tremble, and the strong men stoop, when the grinders cease because they are few, and those looking through the windows grow dim; when the doors to the street are closed and the sound of grinding fades;

C: When men rise up at the sound of birds, but all their songs grow faint, when men are afraid of heights and dangers in the streets; when the almond tree blossoms and the grasshopper drags himself along and desire no longer is stirred. Then man goes to his eternal home and mourners go about the streets.

P: Remember him—before the silver cord is severed,

C: Or the golden bowl is broken;

P: Before the pitcher is shattered at the spring;

C: Or the wheel broken at the well,

P: And the dust returns to the ground it came from;

C: And the spirit returns to God who gave it.

P: Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.

C: For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

Be seated

HYMN

“The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”

CW 207:1,6 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain



The day is sure - ly draw - ing near
O Je - sus Christ, do not de - lay,



When God's Son, the A - noint - ed,
But hast - en our sal - va - tion;



Shall with great ma - jes - ty ap - pear
We of - ten trem - ble on our way



As judge of all ap - point - ed.
In fear and trib - u - la - tion.



All mirth and laugh - ter then shall cease
Your saints are wait - ing pa - tient - ly;



When flames on flames will still in - crease,
Come soon, Re - deem - er, make us free



As Scrip-ture tru-ly teach - es.
From ev' - ry ev-il. A - men.

Keep Your Priorities Straight

Luke 12:16-21 *The Parable of the Rich Fool*

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

¹⁸ “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹ And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’

²⁰ “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

²¹ “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

P: “Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear,

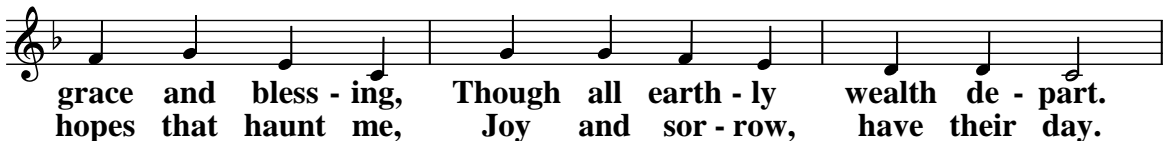
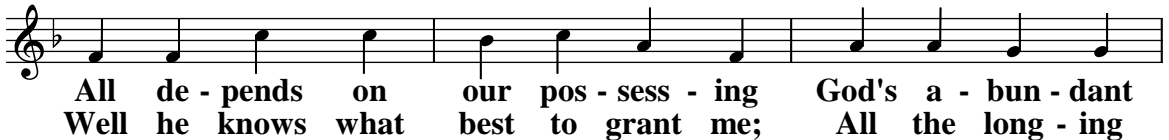
C: But seek his kingdom, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

P: “Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will not be exhausted, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

C: For where your treasure is there your heart will be also.”

HYMN

“All Depends on Our Possessing”



Flee Evil

P: Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.

C: Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

P: O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: Thanks be to you, O Lord!

Pray for Divine Protection

P: My times are in your hands;

C: Deliver me from my enemies and from those who pursue me.

P: Let your face shine on your servant;

C: Save me in your unfailing love.

Heed the Call to Persevere

P: Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy place by the blood of Jesus;

C: By a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body,

P: And since we have a great priest over the house of God;

C: Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our bodies washed with pure water.

P: Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess;

C: For he who promised is faithful.

P: And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

C: Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the day approaching.

P: So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised.

C: For in just a very little while, “He who is coming will come and will not delay. But my righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him.”

All: But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who believe and are saved.

HYMN

“Praise to You and Adoration”

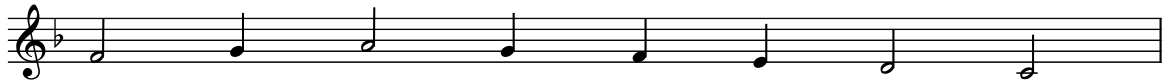
CW 470 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain



Praise to you and ad - or - a - tion,
Hold me ev - er in your keep - ing;



Bless - ed Je - sus, Son of God,
Com - fort me in pain and strife.



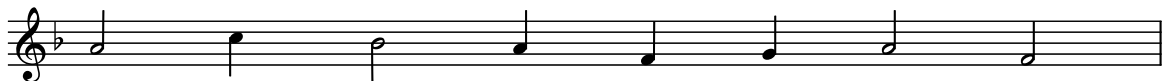
Who, to serve your own cre - a - tion,
In my laugh - ter and my weep - ing



Came to share our flesh and blood.
Be with me through - out my life.



Guide me that I nev - er may From your fold or pas - tures stray,
Give me great - er love for you, And my faith and hope re - new



But with zeal and joy ex - ceed - ing
In your birth, your life, and pas - sion,



Fol - low where your steps are lead - ing.
In your death and re - sur - rec - tion.

Trust in the Lord

- P: The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?
C: **The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?**
- P: When evil men advance against me to devour my flesh, when my enemies and my foe attack me, they will stumble and fall.
C: **Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war break out against me, even then will I be confident.**
- P: One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.
C: **For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling, he will hide me in the shelter of his tabernacle and set me high upon a rock.**
- P: Then you will go on your way in safety, and your foot will not stumble;
C: **When you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.**
- P: Have no fear of sudden disaster or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked,
C: **For the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being snared.**
- P: The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you.
C: **He will never leave you nor forsake you.**
- P: Do not be afraid;
C: **Do not be discouraged.**



The Lord is My Light & My Salvation

HYMN

“O Lord, Our Father, Thanks and Praise”

CW 72 Text, Tune: Public Domain Setting: ©1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer



O Lord, our Fa - ther, thanks and praise In
 Lord Je - sus Christ, our thanks and praise In
 O Ho - ly Spir - it, thanks and praise In
 Our faith - ful God, we cry to you: Still



this new year we ren - der. For ev - 'ry e - vil had to flee Be -
 this new year we ren - der; Your reign has kept your peo - ple free, Has
 this new year we ren - der, For you have led our eyes to see Your
 bless us with your fa - vor, Blot out all our in - iq - ui - ty, And



- fore you, our de - fend - er. Our life was nour - ished,
 shown your mer - cies ten - der. You have re - deemed us
 truth in all its splen - dor And thus en - kin - dled
 hide our sins for - ev - er. Grant us a hap - py



we were fed With rich sup - plies of dai - ly bread, And
 with your blood; You are our joy, our on - ly good, In
 from a - bove With - in our hearts true faith and love And
 good new year And, when the hour of death draws near, A



peace reigned in our bor - ders.
 life and death our Sav - ior.
 oth - er Chris - tian vir - tues.
 peace - ful, blest de - par - ture.

SERMON TEXT—John 1:14-18

¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵ (John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, “This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶ Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

SERMON

Grace upon Grace



Stand

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

C: Holy and gracious God, I confess that I have sinned against you this year, this month, this week, this day, this hour. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to you. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask for forgiveness. Deliver me and restore me that I may live in peace.

(moment of silence for contemplation)

P: By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiven. Live now in his peace and serve the Lord this coming year.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Be seated

The Lord's Supper

Our church practices membership communion. We ask that only members partake of the sacrament. You will be guided to the table by an usher. Your group may come forward together. Please practice social distancing with other groups or individuals. The bread and wine are laid out individually for you to remove from the table.

DISTRIBUTION

Remain seated following the distribution

BENEDICTION

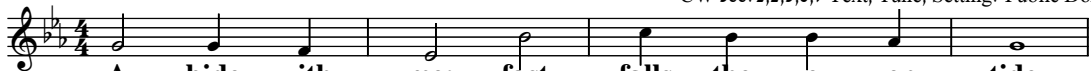
P: May the Lord bless you in the year to come;
May the Lord's face shine on you now and always;
May the Lord look upon you with his favor and give the gift of peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Abide with Me"

CW 588: 1,2,5,6,7 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain



A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven - tide.
Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour.
I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
Earth's joys grow dim; its glor - ies pass a - way.
What but thy grace can foil the tempt - ter's pow'r?
Ills have no weight and tears no bit - ter - ness.
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain sha - dows flee;



Help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me!
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me!
Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me!
I tri - umph still if thou a - bide with me.
In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you: The staff at COR would like to thank you for all the cards, gifts, and words of encouragement. They are greatly appreciated.

Tom, Jackie, Jonas, Silas, Lucas & Cecily
Tim & Becky Feld; Ruth & Connor Nitz
Alex, Kim & Liana Miller

Sunday	January 3	8a Worship with Communion No Bible Class or Sunday School
Monday	January 4	10: 30a Worship with Communion School resumes from Christmas Break
Thursday	January 7	7p Worship resumes
Sunday	January 10	8 & 10: 30a Worship, 9: 15a Bible Class & Sunday School

**A warm welcome to our visitors.
May the Lord bless your worship with us today.**

Christ Our Redeemer was organized in 1965 so that with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, it might strengthen the faith of its members and reach out into the community and the world.

**Worship services Sundays at 8 & 10:30a
Thursdays at 7p**

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