

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor Mark Voss New Year's Eve Service
December 31, 2009



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 - CW307

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“Wondrous Are Your Ways, O God”

**Wondrous are your ways, O God! No one can escape you!
Farthest space nor greatest depth Cannot hide me from you!
Long before I came to birth, Your eye saw and knew me.
Even in life's darkest hour In your hand you hold me.**

**Search me, God, and know my heart, Lord of truth and mercy.
From afar, O Lord, you know All my thoughts, my secrets.
And if any wicked way Should be found within me,
Cleanse, forgive me by your grace; By your Spirit guide me.**

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 – Isaiah 30:15-18 - In Repentance Is Rest ¹⁵This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. ¹⁶You said, 'No, we will flee on horses.' Therefore you will flee! You said, 'We will ride off on swift horses.' Therefore your pursuers will be swift! ¹⁷A thousand will flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five you will all flee away, till you are left like a flagstaff on a mountaintop, like a banner on a hill." ¹⁸Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

Psalm 25

Refrain



To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; in you I trust, my God.

Psalm Tone



To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; *in you I trust, O my God.

Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love, *for they are from of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways;
*according to your love remember me, for you are good, O LORD.

Refrain

Turn to me and be gracious to me, *for I am lonely and afflicted.

Look upon my affliction and my distress *and take away all my sins.

Guard my life and rescue me, *for I take refuge in you.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son *and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, *is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Silence for meditation

P: God, compassionate Father and friend, remember not our sins but rather remember your love and mercy. Relieve our distress and satisfy us with eternal peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Gospel Lesson - Luke 13:6-9 A Lesson From a Fig Tree - ⁶Then 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. ⁷So 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?' ⁸"'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'"

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.



Sermon - “The Pilgrim’s Hour”

1 The Pilgrim’s Praise – Genesis 32:10

¹⁰I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness you have shown your servant. I had only my staff when I crossed this Jordan, but now I have become two groups.

2. The Pilgrim’s Confession – Psalm 130:1-4

¹Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD; ²O Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. ³If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? ⁴But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared.

3. The Pilgrim’s Prayer – Luke 24:28-29

²⁸As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going further. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them.

Hymn of the Day – CW331

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Confession and Absolution

P: Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart. In what I have done and left undone, I have pursued my ways instead of your ways. I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. I am truly sorry for my sins. I repent of them. I beg for your mercy, O Lord.

Silence for meditation

P: Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us.

C: Cleanse me from my sins. Release me from my guilt. Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.

P: The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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.

Offering

Sing:

CH464



Come to the ta-ble of mer-cy, Pre-pared with the wine and the bread. All who are hun-gry and



thirsty. Come and your souls will be fed. Come at the Lord's in-vi - ta-tion; Re - ceive



from His nail-scarred hand. Eat of the bread of sal-va-tion; Drink of the blood of the Lamb.

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, Distribution and Quiet Meditation

Thanksgiving

All: *We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Blessing – Closing Hymn (Tune CW332)

Choir: May the grace of God the Father now be with you
May the working of God's Spirit empower you.

CONG: **We have heard the gospel message Christ for us, in us forever.
God has blessed us with his goodness and giv'n his grace.**

Choir: May the peace of God be with you, now & always
As you serve the Lord with gladness all through your days.

CONG: **God will give us strength and bless us He will comfort and direct us.
God, the same today and always, will be with us.**

Choir: Be encouraged and encourage with Jesus love.
Love and comfort one another; praise God above.

CONG: **God redeemed, renewed, equipped us, as on eagle's wings uplifts us.
We are God's, now and forever; praise we the Lord.**