



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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School: Kindergarten-8th

Church Year: New Years Eve

Date: December 31, 2014

HYMN:..... *TLH 111: Thou Who Roll'st the Year Around*

RESPONSORY:

P: We begin this New Years Eve worship service in the name of our Triune God who has spanned eternity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C [✂]: Amen.

P: Gracious God, as we stand on the threshold of the New Year, we are painfully aware of our stubborn and sinful natures which have often led us to do the very things You have forbidden, and to neglect the things You have commanded. Do not be angry with us, but for Jesus' sake freely forgive us.

C: Dear Lord, hear our prayer, forgive us and be with us in this new year of grace.

P: God in heaven, for Christ's sake, has forgiven you all your sins. Father, we are also mindful and appreciative of all the blessings of body and soul You have showered upon us this past year. We need Your continual Presence in the future. Years come and years go, but You, our God, are ever the same. We are confident of Your tender love because You have adopted us as Your children through Jesus.

C: Dear Lord, hear our prayer, bless us and be with us in this new year of grace.

P: Watch over us lest we be overcome by our own pride, selfishness, lust, lovelessness, or any other evil attitude of our sinful flesh. Fill us with love toward others. Keep us from bitterness toward those who may have wronged us and move us to forgive them as You have forgiven us.

C: Dear Lord, hear our prayer, strengthen us and be with us in the coming year.

P: Give us grace through Your Spirit to love and desire Your Word and all its blessings for our soul. Help us be faithful hearers and doers of Your Word. Lead us to treasure the gift of Truth and to seek to preserve it against all error. Help us to share Your saving Gospel and Truth with precious souls near and far.

C: Dear Lord, hear our prayer, inspire us and be with us in the coming year.

P: Rule the nations of the world and their leaders. Guide our nation and its leaders that we may be enabled to live godly lives in quietness and peace, and that the Gospel may have free course here and abroad. Help those who are hurting, struggling, or in need. Guide, guard, and bless us. May all that we do in this new year glorify Your name.

C: Dear Lord, hear our prayer, bless us and others and be with us in the coming year. Amen.

C [♪]: Now, O great God, in years to come,
Whatever may betide us,
Right onward through our journey home
Be Thou at hand to guide us;
Nor leave us till at close of life,
Safe from all perils, toil, and strife,
Heav'n shall enfold and hide us. (TLH 110, st. 6)

FIRST READING: *Psalm 13*

PSALM OF THE DAY: *Psalm 121:1-4, 5-8 (WS, p. 42)*

SECOND READING: *Lamentations 3:22-24*

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *Luther's Explanation to the 1st Article*

C: I believe that God has created me and all creatures. He has given me my body and life, eyes, ears, and all my bodily members, my mind and all my senses, and still keeps them for me. God also preserves me by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals, and all my property and all I need to support this body and life. He protects me from all danger. He guards and defends me from every evil. God does all this because He is my good and gracious Father in heaven, not because of anything I have done to earn or deserve it. For all of this it is my duty to thank, praise, serve, and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

HYMN: *TLH 31: When All Thy Mercies, O My God*

SERMON:..... *Ecclesiastes 1:9-11*

⁹ That which has been *is* what will be,
That which *is* done is what will be done,
And *there is* nothing new under the sun.

¹⁰ Is there anything of which it may be said,
“See, this *is* new”?

It has already been in ancient times before us.

¹¹ *There is* no remembrance of former *things*,
Nor will there be any remembrance of *things* that are to come
By those who will come after. (NKJV™)

... And There is Nothing New Under the Sun

HYMN:..... *WS 716: Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year*

OFFERING:..... *Interlude*

NEW YEAR PRAYER, LORD’S PRAYER:

PREPARATION FOR LORD’S SUPPER:.. *Luther’s Christian Questions*

P: Do you believe that the true body and
blood of Christ are in the Sacrament?

C: Yes, I believe this.

P: What leads you to believe this?

**C: I am moved to believe this from the
word of Christ: “Take, eat, this is My
body ... drink of it, all of you, this is
My blood.”**



P: What should we do when we eat His body
and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge?

**C: We should proclaim and remember the shedding of His
blood and His death, just as He taught us, “Do this,
whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”**

P: Why should we proclaim and remember His death?

**C: We should do this so that we learn: to believe that no
creature could possibly do enough to pay for our sins;
only Christ, true God and true man, could; to be
frightened by our sins and consider them to be great
indeed; and to find joy and comfort in Him, knowing
that we are saved through this same faith.**

P: What caused Jesus to die and do what was needed to pay for our sins?

**C: Christ did all this because of His great love for the
Father and each one of us, as the Scriptures teach.**

P: Finally, why do you want to go to the Sacrament?

C: **From this I learn to believe that Christ died for my sin out of His great love for me. I also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.**

P: As you have confessed your sins, I, as a called servant of the Lord Jesus, in His place and by His command, forgive you all your sins. And now, abide in Him, that, when He shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before Him at His coming!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

PREPARATION:..... *WS 755, st. 1-2, 5: What Is This Bread*

Note: Pastor will sing the opening question at the beginning of each stanza with the congregation responding thereafter.

DISTRIBUTION:..... *Meditative Music*

RESPONSE:.... *TLH 306, st. 8: Lord Jesus Christ, Thou Hast Prepared*

C [♫]: **For Thy consoling Supper, Lord,
Be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in every place
The world against it rages.
Grant that this Sacrament may be
A blessed comfort unto me
When living and when dying.**



CLOSING PRAYER:..... *Luther's Evening Prayer*

C: **We thank Thee, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Thy dear Son, that Thou hast kept us this day; and we pray Thee that Thou wouldst graciously forgive us all our sins where we have done wrong, and graciously keep us this night. For into Thy hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls, and all things. Let Thy holy angel be with us that the wicked Foe may have no power over us. Amen.**

BENEDICTION:..... *Based Upon Isaiah 41:10*

P: Now receive the Lord's blessing: Fear not, for the LORD is with you; Be not dismayed, for the LORD is your God. The LORD will strengthen you, Yes, the LORD will help you, The Lord will uphold you with His righteous right hand.

C [♫]: **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

HYMN:..... *TLH 653: Now the Light Has Gone Away*

SILENT PRAYER: