



**LORD of LOVE**  
*Lutheran Church*



**New Year's Eve Service**  
**December 31, A.D. 2021**



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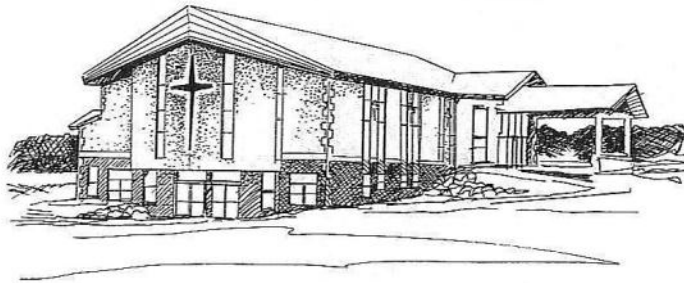
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Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - *Christ's Love, Our Calling.*

**“I rejoiced with those who said to me,  
‘Let us go to the house of the LORD.’”  
Psalm 122:1**



# Lord of Love Lutheran Church

## New Year's Eve

December 31, A.D. 2021

### THE COMMON SERVICE

*STAND*

#### INVOCATION

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

#### SCRIPTURE DIALOGUE WITH CONFESSION

**M:** Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

**C:** **Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth  
and the world, from eternity to eternity you are God.**

**M:** For a thousand years in your sight are like a day,

**C:** **Like yesterday that has gone by, or like a watch in the night.**

Psalm 90:1,2,4

*(sung)* **Across the sky the shades of night This New Year's Eve are fleeting.  
We deck your altar, Lord, with light, In solemn worship meeting,  
And, as the year's last hours go by, We raise to you our earnest cry,  
Once more your love entreating. (CW 69:1)**

**M:** The LORD knows the days of the blameless. Their inheritance will last forever.

**C:** **They will not be ashamed in time of disaster. In days of famine they will be full.**

**M:** The salvation of the righteous comes from the LORD.  
He is their stronghold in times of stress.

**C: The LORD helps them and delivers them. He delivers them from the wicked.  
He saves them, because they have taken refuge in him.** Psalm 37:18,19,39,40

*(sung)* **We gather up in this brief hour The mem'ry of your mercies.  
Your wondrous goodness, love, and pow'r Our grateful song rehearses,  
For you have been our strength and stay In many a dark and dreary day  
Of sorrow and reverses. (CW 69:2)**

**M:** Who is a God like you, who forgives guilt, and who passes over the rebellion of the survivors from his inheritance?

**C: He does not hold onto his anger forever. He delights in showing mercy.**

**M:** He will have compassion on us again. He will overcome our guilty deeds.

**C: You will throw all their sins into the depths of the sea.** Micah 7:18,19

**M:** Heavenly Father, you take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from their way and live. With repentant hearts, therefore, we confess our sins to you, and we ask you for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.

**C: Amen.**

*(sung)* **Before the cross, subdued, we bow, To you our prayers addressing,  
Recounting all your mercies now And all our sins confessing.  
We ask you, Lord, this coming year To keep us in your faith and fear  
And crown us with your blessing. (CW 69:3)**

**M:** God has said: I will never leave you, and I will never forsake you.

**C:** **So then we say with confidence: The Lord is my helper,  
and I will not be afraid. What will man do to me?**

**M:** Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

**C:** **We do not have a permanent city here,  
but we are looking for the city that is coming.**

Hebrews 13:5,6,8,14

*(sung)* **Then, gracious God, in years to come, Whatever may betide us,  
Right onward through our journey home, Oh, stay at hand to guide us,  
Nor leave us till, at close of life, Safe from all peril, toil, and strife,  
Heav'n shall enfold and hide us. (CW 69:5)**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M:** Let us pray.

Eternal God, we commit to your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and commend to your blessing and love the times to come. In the new year, abide among us with your Holy Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

## THE WORD OF GOD FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE

### LESSON

Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

<sup>1</sup> *So remember your Creator in the days of your youth,  
before the bad days come and the years arrive when you will say,  
“I have no delight in them,”*

<sup>2</sup> *before the sun and the light of the moon and the stars are darkened,  
before the clouds return after the rain,*

<sup>3</sup> *before the day when the watchmen of the house tremble,  
and the strong men are bent over,  
and the women who grind grain cease because they are few,  
and those watching through the windows can barely see.*

<sup>4</sup> *Then the double doors to the street are shut,  
as the grinding of the mill grows quiet.*

*A person wakes up at the sound of a bird,  
but all the sounds of music are muffled.*

<sup>5</sup> *Then they fear heights and terrors along the road.  
The almond blossoms become white.*

*The grasshopper drags himself along,  
and the caperberry has no effect.*

*Why? Because the man is heading to his eternal home.  
Then the wailing mourners will go around in the street.*

<sup>6</sup> *Remember your Creator*

*before the silver cord is snapped,  
and the golden bowl is broken,  
before the jar is shattered by the spring,  
and the waterwheel is broken by the well,*

<sup>7</sup> *and the dust goes back into the ground—just as it was before,  
and the spirit goes back to God who gave it.*

*<sup>6</sup> He told them this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard. He came looking for fruit on it, but he did not find any. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the gardener, 'Look, for three years now I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and I have found none. Cut it down. Why even let it use up the soil?' <sup>8</sup> But the gardener replied to him, 'Sir, leave it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put fertilizer on it. <sup>9</sup> If it produces fruit next year, fine. But if not, then cut it down.'"*

HYMN (CW 441)

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



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  
5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, Soon



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  
bears us all a - way; We fly, for - got - ten,



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.  
as a dream Dies at the op'n - ing 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, 1674-1748, abr., alt.  
Tune: St. ANNE (CM) William Croft, 1678-1727, alt.

## SERMON

Exodus 33:14-15, 17

<sup>14</sup> *The LORD said, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." <sup>15</sup> Moses said to him, "If your Presence is not going to go with me, do not send us up from here... <sup>17</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have said, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name."*

**Not without the Lord!**

STAND

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**M:** I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

**C:** Every day I will praise you and extol your name.

**M:** It is fitting, O Lord, in the final hours of this year, to express our gratitude for the countless gifts of grace we have received from you.



**C: You have been faithful to your promises and loving toward all you have made.**

**M:** You clothe your creation with beauty; you feed even the birds and tell us that we are much more valuable than they.

**C: You know what we need, and you give us all good things.**

**M:** Clothing and food, safety and health, possessions and money, even life itself—all these come to us from your generous hand.

**C: We thank you for these blessings, and we ask that you continue to grant them to us.**

**M:** We thank you especially for your Word and Holy Supper, which strengthen our faith, shield us from temptation, and equip us for service.

**C: Increase our commitments to these precious gifts, so that we may continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

**M:** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

**M:** Almighty and eternal God, you have been gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and rich in love. As you led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, so lead us by the light of your Word that we may live our lives to your glory and be prepared to die in your peace.

**C: We ask these things in the name of Jesus. In his name we began this year; in his name we bring it to a close. Amen.**

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## LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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 recorded Service of the Word for members at home concludes here.  
We continue with the Service of the Sacrament with those gathered in the sanctuary.*

## THE SACRAMENT

### PREFACE

**M:** The Lord be with you.



**C:** And al - so with you.

**M:** Lift up your hearts.



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

**M:** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



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

**M:** 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, for in the wonder and mystery of his birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*Sanctus*



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M:** 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."


**M:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

*Agnus Dei*



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

*BE SEATED*

## DISTRIBUTION

*In accordance with the Scriptural practice of closed Communion, we invite to the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood the communicant members of this congregation. We invite also the communicant members of our sister congregations in our fellowship (the WELS and the ELS) who have made their intention known to one of our pastors. We ask other guests in attendance to refrain from taking the Sacrament with us today, and we invite you to speak with a pastor about how you may join our fellowship and commune with us in the future.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 64)

Let Us All with Gladsome Voice



1 Let us all with glad - some voice Praise the  
 2 To this vale of tears he comes, Here to  
 3 We are rich, for he was poor; Is not  
 4 O Lord Christ, our Sav - ior dear, Bless us



God of heav - en, Who, to bid our  
 serve in sad - ness, That with him in  
 this a won - der? There - fore praise God  
 and be near us. Grant us now a



hearts re - joice, His own Son has giv - en.  
 heav'n's fair homes We may reign in glad - ness.  
 ev - er - more Here on earth and yon - der.  
 glad new year. A - men, Je - sus, hear us!

Text: *Ander Theil Des Dressdenischen GesangBuchs*, Dresden, 1632; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.  
 Tune: LASST UNS ALLE (76 76 Trochaic) *Ander Theil Des Dressdenischen GesangBuchs*, Dresden, 1632, alt.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 449)

Children of the Heavenly Father



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly  
 2 God his own doth tend and nour - ish; In his  
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the  
 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his



in his bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird or star in  
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things he  
 Lord his chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them his grace he  
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge ne'er was giv - en.  
 spares them; In his might - y arms he bears them.  
 show - eth, And their sor - rows all he know - eth.  
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Caroline V. Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958. © Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America.  
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 Tune: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA (LM Trochaic) Swedish folk tune, 19th century.

# THANKSGIVING

STAND

## SONG OF SIMEON

*Nunc Dimittis*



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing  
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-  
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the  
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

**M:** Abide with us, Lord, for it is evening and the day is almost over. Abide with us and with your whole Church. Abide with us in the evening of the day, in the evening of life, in the evening of the world. Abide with us in your grace and goodness, in your holy Word and sacrament, in your comfort and blessing. Abide with us when we are overcome by the night of sorrow and fear, by the night of doubt and affliction, by the night of bitter death. Abide with us and with all your people in time and in eternity.

**C:** Amen.

**M:** 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.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

## CLOSING HYMN (CW 293)

## God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

God's Word is our great her - i - tage And shall be ours for -  
ev - er; To spread its light from age to age Shall be our  
chief en - deav - or. Through life it guides our way; In death it  
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, We keep its  
teach - ings pure Through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925.  
Tune: REUTER (87 87 66 66 7) Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924.

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