

New Year's Worship

December 31, 2017

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation
1600 S. Main St., Fond du Lac, Wisconsin
www.stpetersfdl.net

Bells

Invocation

Pastor/**Congregation**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Hymn 72 v 1-3

“O Lord, Our Father Thanks and Praise”

**O Lord, our Father, thanks and praise, in this new year we render,
For ev'ry evil had to flee, before you, our defender.
Our life was nourished, we were fed, with rich supplies of daily bread,
and peace reigned in our borders.**

**Lord Jesus Christ our thanks and praise, in this new year we render,
Your reign has kept your people free, has shown your mercies tender.
You have redeemed us with your blood; you are our joy, our only good,
In life and death our Savior.**

**O Holy Spirit, thanks and praise, in this new year we render,
For you have led our eyes to see, your truth in all its splendor,
And thus enkindled from above, with-in our hearts true faith and love,
And other Christian virtues.**

Responsive Reading: Psalm 121

Pastor/**Congregation**

I will lift up my eyes to the hills, where does my help come from?
My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip, he who watches over you will not slumber;
Indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord watches over you, the Lord is your shade at your right hand;

The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all harm, he will watch over your life;
The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

Hymn 72 v 4

“O Lord, Our Father Thanks and Praise”

**Our faithful God, we cry to you: “still bless us with your favor,
Blot out all our iniquity, and hide our sins forever.
Grant us a happy, good new year, and when the hour of death draws near,
A peaceful, blest departure.”**

Confession and Absolution

Pastor/Congregation

As we go into a new year, we begin with confession. We begin by acknowledging our sinfulness before our Holy God, for it is written, “If we confess our sins he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9)

Jesus forgive the sins I have committed over this past year. Forgive the sins that I remember, and the sins I have forgotten. Forgive my many failures in the face of temptation, and those times when I have been stubborn in the face of correction. Forgive the times I have been proud of my own achievements and those when I have failed to boast in your works.

Forgive the harsh judgments I have made of others, and the leniency I have shown myself. Forgive the lies I have told to others and the truths I have avoided. Forgive me the pain I have caused others, and the indulgence I have shown myself. Jesus, have mercy on me, cleanse me, and make me whole again.

Our Almighty God, who by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, has this day forgiven all your sins. Now may the Holy Spirit in this new year open our eyes to see God’s truth, strengthen us to do God’s will, and give us joy in the confidence of eternal life.

Amen.

Hymn 374 v 1, 3

”My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”

**My shepherd will supply my need – Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wand’ring spirit back, when I forsake his ways
And leads me for, his mercies sake, in paths of truth and grace.**

**The sure provisions of my God, attend me all my days;
Oh, may his house be my abode, and all my works be praise.
There would I find a troubled rest, while others go and come,
No more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.**

The Word of God

Old Testament Reading

Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

We move into the future understanding that our God guides the future for the good of his people.

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. What do workers gain from their toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God. I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him.

Hymn 441 v 1, 2

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

**O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.**

**Under the shadow of your throne, your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.**

New Testament Reading

Luke 13:6-9

We move into the future understanding that our time on earth is our Time of Grace, the time the Lord graciously gives us to repent of our sins and turn to Jesus for forgiveness.

Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. “The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’ “‘An enemy did this,’ he replied. “The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ “‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’”

Hymn 441 v 3, 4, 6

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

**Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
From everlasting you are God, To endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in your sight, are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night, before the rising sun.**

**O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Still be our guide while troubles last, and our eternal home!**

Sermon

Matthew 6:31-33

So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

“Stop Worrying and Seek!”

Offering

The Sacrament of the Altar

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is good and right so to do.

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, who in blessing his saints of the past has given us glorious assurance and hope that, following their example of faith, we may run with perseverance the race marked out for us, and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. 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

Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

1 O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and
 2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How tru - ly blest is
 might, Your glo - ry, earth and heav - en In
 he Who in God's name is com - ing To
 count - less ways re - cite. Ho - san - na! Come and
 set his peo - ple free! He comes to bring sal -
 save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And
 va - tion And with his blood out - poured, De -
 in your grace and mer - cy Re - ceive our fer - vent cry.
 liv - er us from bond - age—Ho - san - na, might - y Lord!

Words of Institution

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei

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. A - men.

Distribution Hymn 741

Soloist "Take and Eat"

The soloist will sing the verses of the hymn. The congregation is welcome to join in singing the refrain. It is as follows:

**Take and eat, take and eat, this is my body given up for you.
Take and drink, take and drink, this is my blood given up for you**

Communion Hymns:

71 "The Old Year Now Has Passed Away"

54 "Where Shepherds Lately Kneelt"

SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis

Tune: WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN



1 O Lord, now let your serv - ant De - part in peace,
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All glo - ry to



as - sured: For I have seen your prom - ised In -
the Son, All glo - ry to the Spir - it, For -



car - nate, sav - ing Word— A Light that will en - light - en
ev - er three in one; For as in the be - gin - ning,



All gloom where Gen - tiles dwell; The bril - liant,
Is now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une



crown - ing glo - ry Of those in Is - ra - el!
name re - sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Closing Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people throughout the days of this coming New Year. May the love of the Christ Child this Christmas season, continue to shine in our hearts in the days ahead for all the world to see. May the grace of God continue to lead us to our Savior Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

We continue to pray in our Savior's name.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Closing Blessing

Closing Hymn 75

"Father, Let Me Dedicate"

**Father, let me dedicate all this year to you,
In what e'er my earthly state, in what e'er I do.
Not from sorrow, pain, or care, freedom dare I claim;
This alone shall be my prayer: Glorify your name.**

**Can a child presume to choose, where or how to live?
Can a father's love refuse all the best to give?
More you give me ev'ry day, than the best can claim;
Help me trust you that I may, Glorify your name.**

**If in mercy you prolong, joys that now are mine,
If on life serene and fair brighter rays may shine,
Let my glad heart, while it sings, you in all proclaim,
And what e'er the future brings, Glorify your name.**

The New Year's bulletin covers are given by Rose and Lorin Orvis in thankfulness for their many blessings.