

Historic Zion Lutheran Church

DIVINE SERVICE FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE AND THE CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS

7:00 pm Wednesday, December 31, 2025

RECEIVING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT ZION

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church throughout her history, "Closed Communion" is observed in this congregation, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those:

- (a) who have been **baptized** in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit;
- (b) who have been **instructed** in the truth of Holy Scripture as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, who have been **confirmed** in this Lutheran faith, and who now confess the same doctrines that are taught in this congregation, holding membership in a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod;
- (c) who **believe that in this sacrament the real body and blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them**, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) who **sincerely repent** of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services, before receiving the sacrament, are requested to affirm these facts with one of our pastors. Thank you for honoring our practice. If you are looking for a church home, would like to be a member of Zion, or would like to learn more about the Christian Faith, please speak to one of our pastors about our membership classes.

☩ = appropriate to make the baptismal sign of the cross

When "rise" or "kneel" is indicated, it is appropriate to sit if needed

[Rise] Invocation

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

The Office of Confession of Sins and Absolution

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Kneel]

*Our help is in the name of the Lord Who made heaven and earth.
I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord. And You forgave the
iniquity of my sin.*

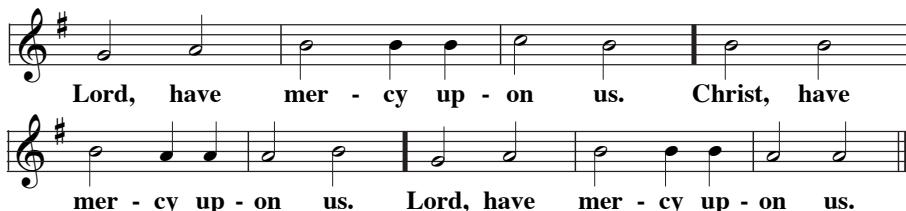
O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

The Congregation rises, turns towards the entrance of the nave, and faces the Cross of Christ, the reminder of Christ's promise to come and dwell among His people as they are gathered in His name.

Entrance Hymn See Amid The Winter's Snow Burgundy Hymn 373

Kyrie

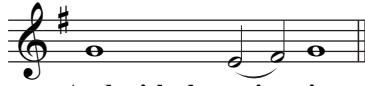


Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria Hymn Angels From the Realms Burgundy Hymn 367

Salutation

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir— it.

Collect for The Circumcision and Naming of Jesus: *Lord God, heavenly Father, because You sent us Your only-begotten Son for our salvation and gave Him the name of Jesus, grant that we may begin the New Year trusting in His saving name and live all our days in His service and praise to the glory of His holy name; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



A —— men!

Collect for New Year's Day: *Eternal God, we commit to Your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and command to Your blessing and love the times yet to come. In the new year, abide among us with Your Holy Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*



A —— men!

[Be Seated]

+ The Office of the Word of God +

Old Testament Reading Numbers 6:22-27

[After the reading] *This is the word of the Lord.* Thanks be to God.

Epistle of the Day Galatians 3:23-29

[After the reading] *This is the word of the Lord.* Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn Let Us All with Gladsome Burgundy Hymn 390

Holy Gospel St. Luke 2:21

[*The Gospel is announced.*]



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord!

[*The Gospel is proclaimed.*]



Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

Confession of Faith (The Nicene Creed)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

[Bow] And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, And was made man;

And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sits at the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, And I look for the resurrection of the dead, And the life  of the world to come. Amen!

[Be Seated]

Hymn of the Day Jesus! Name of Wondrous Burgundy Hymn 900

[All sing stanza 1 & 2; Men alone sing stanza 3; Women alone sing stanza 4; All sing stanzas 5 & 6.]

Sermon

[Rise] **Prayer of the Church**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

[After each petition]:...., Lord, in Your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

[After the final prayer]:...., one God, now and forever **Amen.**

[Be Seated] **Offerings, Voluntary**

[Rise] **Offertory Hymn Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God**



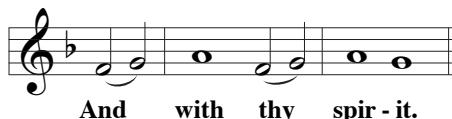
Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pres- ence, and
take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of
Thy sal - va - tion; and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

+ The Office of the Sacrament of the Altar +

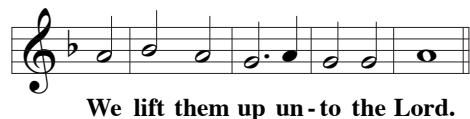
Preface

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.



And with thy spir - it.



We lift them up un - to the Lord.

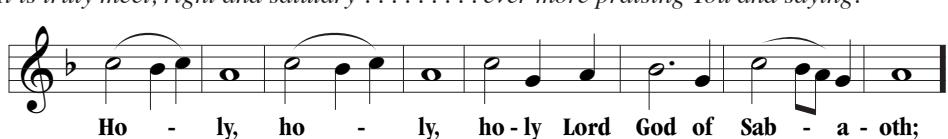
Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface for Christmas, Sanctus

It is truly meet, right and salutary ever more praising You and saying:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;

Heav'n and earth are full of Thy 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 that com-eth in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na, Ho - san-na, Ho - san-na in the highest.

[Kneel] Lord's Prayer

[Pastor chants:] *Our Father who art in heaven; but deliver us from evil.*

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glo - ry for -

ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Words of Institution, Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

A musical staff begins with a treble clef, a B-flat, and a dotted half note. A curved line connects the first four notes. The word "Amen" is written below the staff.

Agnus Dei

1-3. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world,
Stanzas 1 and 2 *Stanza 3*

have mer-cy up - on us. Grant us Thy Peace. A - - - - men!

[*Be Seated*]

Distribution Hymns The Ancient Law Departs..... Burgundy Hymn 898
[Rise for stanza 5.]

Eucharistic Benediction

The Body and Blood of your Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting! ¶ Depart in Peace! **Amen!**

Post-Communion Canticle The Nunc Dimittis

1. Lord now— lettest Thou Thy
servant, de— part— in — peace, ac- cord-ing to Thy Word.

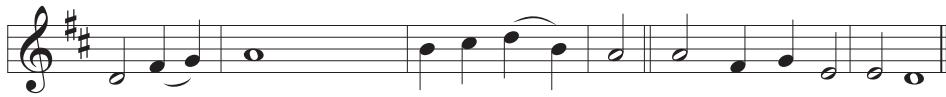
2. For mine eyes have seen
Thy Salvation,
which Thou hast prepared be-fore the face of all people



3. a Light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the Glo- ry of Thy peo-ple Is - - - ra-el.



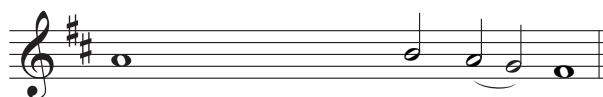
4. Glo- ry be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho- ly Ghost.



5. As it was in the beginning, is now, and e-ver shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Post Communion Rite

Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.



And His mercy endureth for - ev — er.

Prayer of Thanksgiving ... now and forever.



A — men.

The Lord be with you.

Bless we the Lord.



And with thy spir — rit.



Thanks be to God.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



A-men, A-men, A - men.

During the Recessional, the Congregation turns and faces the Processional Cross, the symbol of Christ's promise to remain with and lead His people as they now go and live in His name.

Recessional HymnThe Old Year Now Hath Passed Away ... RED Hymn 125

Postlude



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Readings for New Year's Eve

The Eve of the Circumcision and Name of Jesus

The Old Testament Reading is Numbers 6:22-27

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,

The LORD bless you and keep you;

the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.”

The Epistle is Galatians 3:23-29

Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.

The Gospel is Luke 2:21

And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Hymns for New Year's Eve

LSB373 See amid the Winter's Snow

Edward Caswall

1. See amid the winter's snow, Born for us on earth below,
See, the gentle Lamb appears, Promised from eternal years.

Refrain: Hail, O ever-blessed morn! Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem: "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

2. Lo, within a stable lies He who built the starry skies,
He who, throned in height sublime, Sits amid the cherubim. *Refrain*
3. Sacred Infant, all divine, What a tender love was Thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss Down to such a world as this! *Refrain*
4. Teach, O teach us, holy child, By Thy face so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble Thee In Thy sweet humility. *Refrain*

LSB367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

James Montgomery

1. Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth:
Ye who sang creation's story, Now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2. Shepherds in the field abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, Yonder shines His Infant Light.
Refrain
3. Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations, Ye have seen His natal star.
Refrain
4. Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending, In His temple shall appear.
Refrain
- △ 5. All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son.
Evermore your voices raising To the eternal Three in One.
Refrain

LSB390 Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

German, 17th cent.

1. Let us all with gladsome voice Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice, His own Son hath given.

2. To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sadness,
That with Him in heav'ns fair homes We may reign in gladness.
3. We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore Here on earth and yonder.
4. Christ, our Lord and Savior dear, Be Thou ever near us.
Grant us now a glad new year. Amen, Jesus, hear us.

LSB900 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love

William W. How

1. Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Name all other names above,
Unto which must ev'ry knee Bow in deep humility.
2. Jesus! Name decreed of old, To the maiden mother told,
Kneeling in her lowly cell, By the angel Gabriel.
3. Jesus! Name of priceless worth To the fallen sons of earth
For the promise that it gave, "Jesus shall His people save."
- W 4. Jesus! Name of mercy mild, Given to the holy Child
When the cup of human woe First He tasted here below.
5. Jesus! Only name that's giv'n Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved Burst their fetters and are saved.
6. Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

LSB898 The Ancient Law Departs

Sebastian Besnault

1. The ancient Law departs, And all its fears remove,
For Jesus makes with faithful hearts A covenant of love.
2. The Light of Light divine, True brightness undefiled,
He bears for us the pain of sin, A holy, spotless child.
3. His infant body now Begins the cross to feel;
Those precious drops of blood that flow For death the victim seal.
4. Today the name is Thine At which we bend the knee.
They call Thee Jesus, child divine; Our Jesus deign to be.
- △ 5. All praise, eternal Son, For Thy redeeming love,
With Father, Spirit, ever one In glorious might above.

TLH125 The Old Year Now Hath Passed Away

Johann Steuerlein

1. The old year now hath passed away;
We thank Thee, O our God, today
That Thou hast kept us through the year
When danger and distress were near.
2. We pray Thee, O eternal Son,
Who with the Father reign'st as One,
To guard and rule Thy Christendom
Through all the ages yet to come.
3. Take not Thy saving Word away,
Our souls' true comfort, staff, and stay.
Abide with us and keep us free
From errors, foll'wing only Thee.
4. Oh, help us to forsake all sin,
A new and holier course begin!
Mark not what once was done amiss;
A happier, better year be this,
5. Wherein as Christians we may live
Or die in peace that Thou canst give,
To rise again when Thou shalt come
And enter Thine eternal home.
6. There shall we thank Thee and adore
With all the angels evermore.
Lord Jesus Christ, increase our faith
To praise Thy name through life and death.



What Doctor Luther Says:

About Our Righteousness through Christ's

The Christian church, composed of Jews and Gentiles, is such a new people and a new Jerusalem. This people knows that sin has been removed entirely by Jesus Christ, that all prophecy has been fulfilled, and eternal righteousness established. For he who believes in him is eternally righteous, and all his sins are forever made of no effect, they are atoned for and forgiven, as the New Testament, especially St. Peter and St. Paul, strongly emphasizes. We no longer hear it said: Whoever offers guilt-offerings or sin-offerings or other offerings in Jerusalem becomes righteous or has atoned for his sin; but now we hear: "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned" [Mark 16:16], no matter where in the wide world he may be. He need not travel to Jerusalem; no, Jerusalem has to come to him.

David, too, proclaimed this in Psalm 40 [:6 ff.]: "Sacrifice and offering thou dost not desire; but thou hast given me an open ear" (that is, the ears of the world, that they might hear and believe and thus be saved without sacrifice, temple, and priests). "Burnt offering and sin offering thou hast not required. Then I said, 'Lo, I come; in the roll of the book it is written of me; I delight to do thy will, O God.'" Indeed, this is the Messiah who brought righteousness through his will and obedience.

Luther's Works, 47:304.