

**Grow ... Go ... Gather**  
**December 31, 2020**



**ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**(LCMS)**

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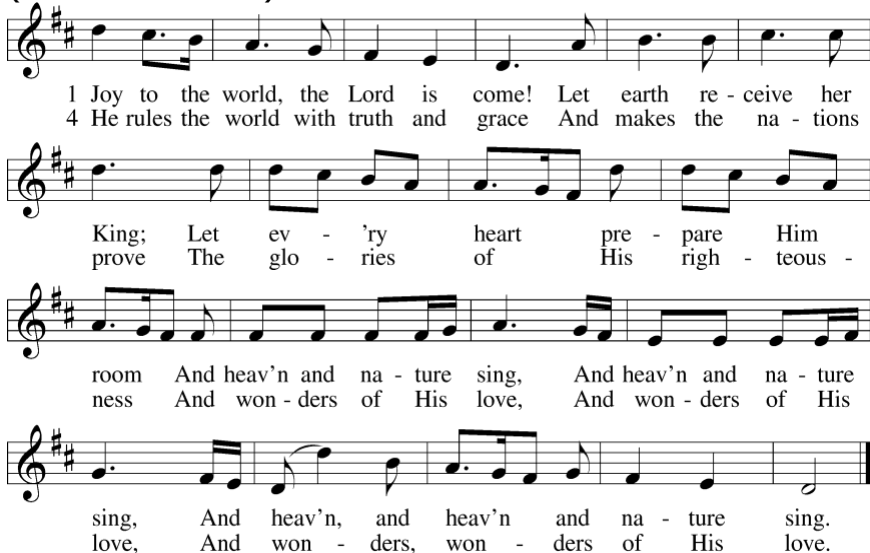
**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
**December 31, 2020**  
**7:00 p.m.**



(Please turn off your wifi and wear your masks when singing. Thank you.)

**The Preservice Music, the Call to Worship & Welcome**

**The Opening Hymn: LSB 387, "Joy to the World"**  
(Verses 1 and 4)



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions  
King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -  
room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His  
sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

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**Opening Versicles**

*LSB 253*

P The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night  
and peace at the last.

C **Amen.**

P It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C **to sing praises to Your name, O Most  
High;**

P to herald Your love in the morning,

C **Your truth at the close of the day.**

## Exhortation

LSB 254

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of  
God and of one another.

## Confession of Sins

LSB 254

P Holy and gracious God,

C **I confess that I have sinned against  
You this day. Some of my sin I know—  
the thoughts and words and deeds of  
which I am ashamed—but some is  
known only to You. In the name of  
Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver  
and restore me that I may rest in  
peace.**

P By the mercy of God we are redeemed by  
Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven.  
We rest now in His peace and rise in the  
morning to serve Him.

C **Amen.**

## A Hymn: LSB 393, "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"



The image shows the musical notation for the hymn "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" (LSB 393). It consists of four staves of music in a single system, all in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The lyrics are: "I In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall; Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all. Swift - ly wing - ing, An - gels sing - ing, Bells are ring - ing, Tid - ings bring - ing: Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!"

I In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall;  
Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
Swift - ly wing - ing, An - gels sing - ing, Bells are ring - ing, Tid - ings bring - ing:  
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

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## The Prayer of the Day:

P: Eternal God, we commit to Your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and commend 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.

**C: Amen.**

## A Hymn: LSB 369, "Where Shepherds Lately Knelt" (verses 1, 3, 4)



1 Where shep-herds late - ly knelt and kept the an - gel's word,  
3 How should I not have known I - sa - iah would be there,  
4 Can I, will I for - get how Love was born, and burned



I come in half - be - lief, a pil - grim strange - ly stirred;  
His proph - e - cies ful - filled? With pound - ing heart I stare:  
Its way in - to my heart— un - asked, un - forced, un - earned,



But there is room and wel - come there for me,  
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,  
To die, to live, and not a - lone for me,



But there is room and wel - come there for me.  
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.  
To die, to live, and not a - lone for me?

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## The Psalmody: Psalm 90:1-12

P: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**C: Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

P: You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"

**C: For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.**

P: You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning:

**C: In the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.**

P: For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.

**C: You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.**

P: For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**C: The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.**

P: Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?

**C: So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

**ALL: 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.**

**The Epistle Lesson:** Romans 8:31b-39

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against

God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**A Hymn:** LSB 389, “Let All Together Praise our God”  
(verses 1, 3, 5, 6)



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His  
 3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -  
 5 He is a ser - vant, I a lord: How great a  
 6 He is the key and He the door To bless - ed



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To  
 at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The  
 mys - ter - y! How strong the ten - der Christ Child's love! No  
 par - a - dise; The an - gel bars the way no more. To



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.  
 splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.  
 tru - er friend than He, No tru - er friend than He.  
 God our prais - es rise, To God our prais - es rise.

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## The Gospel Lesson: Luke 12:35-40

[Jesus said:] "Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## The Sermon Hymn: LSB 896, "Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year" (verses 1, 3, 4, 7)



1 Now greet the swift - ly chang - ing year With  
3 This Je - sus came to end sin's war; This  
4 His love a - bun - dant far ex - ceeds The  
△ 7 God, Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, hear! To



joy and pen - i - tence sin - cere. Re - joyce! Re-joyce! With  
Name of names for us He bore. Re - joyce! Re-joyce! With  
vol - ume of a whole year's needs. Re - joyce! Re-joyce! With  
all our pleas in - cline Your ear; Up - on our lives rich



thanks em - brace An - oth - er year of grace.  
thanks em - brace An - oth - er year of grace.  
thanks em - brace An - oth - er year of grace.  
bless - ing trace In this new year of grace.

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## The Sermon

### The Prayer

- P O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C **Amen.**

### Other Prayers & The Lord's Prayer

- C **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.**





**A Hymn: LSB 899, "Across the Sky of Shades of Night" (verses 1, 3, 5)**



1 A - cross the sky the shades of night This New Year's Eve are  
 3 We gath - er up in this brief hour The mem - 'ry of Your  
 5 Then, gra - cious God, in years to come, We pray Your hand may



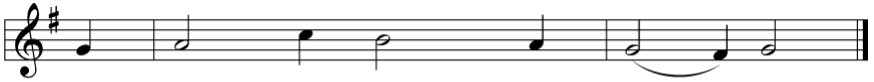
fleet - ing. We deck Your al - tar, Lord, with light, In  
 mer - cies: Your won - drous good - ness, love, and pow'r Our  
 guide us, And, on - ward through our jour - ney home, Your



sol - emn wor - ship meet - ing; And as the year's last  
 grate - ful song re - hears - es; For You have been our  
 mer - cy walk be - side us Un - til at last our



hours go by, We raise to You our ear - nest cry,  
 strength and stay In man - y a dark and drea - ry day  
 ran - somed life Is safe from per - il, toil, and strife



Once more Your love en - treat - ing.  
 Of sor - row and re - vers - es.  
 When heav'n it - self shall hide us.

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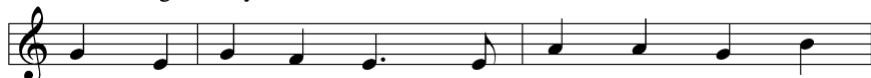
**Announcements and Dismissal for Online Worshippers**

## T The Service of the Sacrament T

### A Hymn: LSB 385, "From East To West" (verses 1, 2, 5)



1 From east to west, from shore to shore Let ev - 'ry  
2 Be - hold, the world's cre - a - tor wears The form and  
△ 5 All glo - ry for this bless - ed morn To God the



heart a - wake and sing The ho - ly child whom  
fash - ion of a slave; Our ver - y flesh our  
Fa - ther ev - er be; All praise to You, O



Mar - y bore, The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing king.  
mak - er shares, His fall - en crea - tures all to save.  
Vir - gin - born, And Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

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### A Christmas Preface

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**C: Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You, for Your great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father**

**Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takes away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. You that take away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. You that sits at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For You only are holy; You only are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### **The Words of Institution**

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

**C:** **And, also with you.**

### **The Distribution**

### **The Post-Communion Prayer**

### **The Benediction**

**P:** May the God who gave us this year and the Savior who walked at our side each day and the Holy Spirit who filled us with life abundant, grace the coming year with peace and hope and joy.

**C: Amen.**

### **A Closing Hymn: LSB 900, "Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love" (verses 1, 3, 6)**



1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,  
 3 Je - sus! Name of price-less worth To the fall - en of the earth  
 6 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Hu - man name of God a - bove;



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.  
 For the prom - ise that it gave, "Je - sus shall His peo - ple save."  
 Plead - ing on - ly this, we flee Help-less, O our God, to Thee.

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