

New Year's Eve Remembrance Service

Our Savior Lutheran Church

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Dr. L. White, Sr. Pastor • Rev. S. Cholak, Asst. Pastor • J. Armstrong, Music Minister

A Worship Service of Remembrance of 2025 and Anticipation of the New Year 2026

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Communion Attendance

The Word of God teaches that the bread and wine of the Sacrament are the true Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. This precious gift of God's grace is to be received in a sense of reverent awe after careful self-examination. The Bible defines that self-examination as a personal recognition of the real presence of Christ's Body and Blood in the Sacrament, and a repentant acknowledgment of my own sinfulness recognizing my absolute dependence upon Christ as the only source of forgiveness for my sin. Scripture further instructs that our participation in Christ's Body and Blood together is the most profound and powerful way for Christians to acknowledge their unity in the faith. That is to say, when we share in the Body and Blood of Jesus at this altar, we are thereby indicating our common commitment to all of the doctrines of God's Word as they are taught in this congregation. Because of these Biblical convictions, we respectfully request that visitors who wish to join us in receiving the Body and Blood of Christ and thereby identify with our confession of Bible truth speak with one of our pastors before attending the Lord's Supper.

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In Nomine Jesu

Music for Meditation & Prayer

Opening Hymn

O Christ the Same

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith; Tune: "Londonderry Air"

1. O Christ the same, through all our sto - ry's pag - es Our loves and
2. O Christ the same, the friend of sin - ners, shar - ing Our in - most
3. O Christ the same, se - cure with - in whose keep - ing Our lives and

3
hopes, our fail - ures and our fears; E - ter - nal Lord, the King of all the
thoughts, the se - crets none can hide; Still as of old up - on your bod - y
loves, our days and years re - main; Our work and rest, our wak - ing and our

6
a - ges, Un - chang - ing still a - mid the pass - ing years: O liv - ing
bear - ing The marks of love in tri - umph glo - ri - fied: O Son of
sleep - ing, Our calm and storm, our plea - sure and our pain: O Lord of

9
Word, the source of all cre - a - tion, Who spread the
Man, who stooped for us from heav - en O Prince of
love, for all our joys and sor - rows, For all our

11
skies and set the stars a - blaze; O Christ the same, who wrought our whole sal -
life, in all your sav - ing power, O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are
hopes, when earth shall fade and flee; O Christ the same, for all our brief to -

14
va - tion, We bring our thanks for all our yes - ter - days.
giv - en: We bring our thanks for this the pres - ent hour.
mor - rows, We bring our thanks for all that is to be.

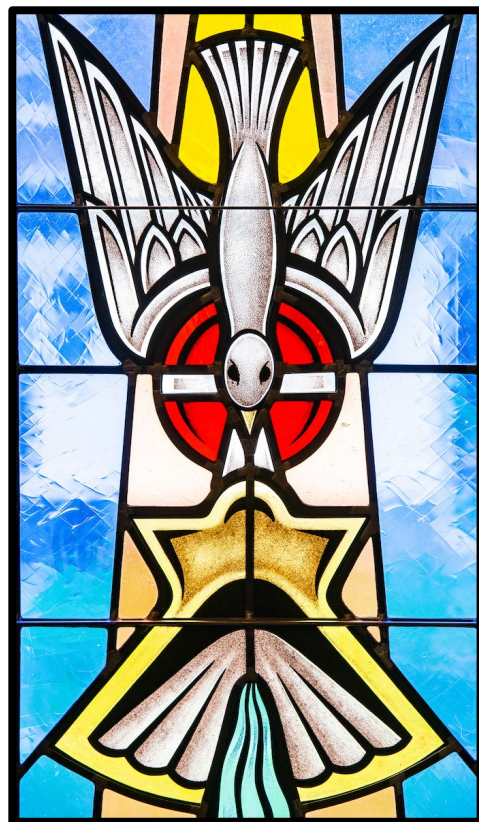
Invocation

A Reminiscence of the Year of Our Lord 2025

Each year marks milestones and turning points in the lives of God's people within this congregation. Babies have been born and born again in the water of Holy Baptism. God, in His infinite wisdom and love, has called a number of His saints home to live with Him in heaven. Young people who have diligently studied the truth of God's Word have confirmed their resolve to remain faithful to the doctrine of our church throughout their lives. New families have begun as men and women have entered the solemn covenant of marriage. This Year of Our Lord, 2025, has been a time of great blessing for all of us. We recall and give thanks for those blessings now by enumerating the baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and funerals which have taken place during the past twelve months.

Baptisms

Holden David Clark – February 16
Ashtyn Lane Clark – February 16
Savannah Olivia Golden – March 16
Tatum Ace Noel Longoria – April 3
Emery John Wilbanks – June 1
Vivian Fae Wilbanks – June 1
Shepherd Lee Cunningham – June 8
Oleh Andrew Cholak – July 6
Augustus Benjamin Pugh – August 31
Lilly Mae Armstrong – October 19
Harley Kim Freeman – November 16



Confirmands

April 13

Livia Sue Adams

George Wesley Huckleberry Bender

Diana Elizabeth Berry

Lucas Alexander Downie

Liliana Grace Luna

Janiah Presefni Thomas

Tyler Scott Wood

Evan Roe Wood



Marriages

Akanksha Bhatia & Ethan Waiser – February 2

Lauren Santamaria & Nicholas Mucci – September 8

Emily Cherington & Preus Hasselbrook – November 23

Saints

Eugene Wallace Zoch – February 25

Pat Malone Terry – March 19

Robert “Bob” Edwin Wottrich – May 1

Ernest “Sonny” Henry Gessner Jr. – May 12

Byron Sterling Martens – June 24

Earl “Buddy” Reed McSpadden – July 13

Valeria Mittelstaedt Dietrich – August 3

Ruby Joyce Butts – August 14

Diane Lynne Baughman – August 31

Norbert Robert Pietsch – November 17

Thomas Patrick O’Neill – November 17



(Stand)

Confession & Absolution

P The eyes of the Lord are always upon you, from the beginning of the year even unto the end.

C *The Lord shows mercy to them that wait for Him, to the soul that seeks Him.*

P Let us then search and examine our ways, and turn again to the Lord.

C *O Lord, we confess this day vows unfulfilled, good purposes forgotten, opportunities neglected, duties left undone, we have spoken unkind words, we have done ungenerous deeds, we have cherished unholy desires; we have neglected You and Your word in our lives. We have no refuge but in Your patient mercy. Show us Your compassion; forgive, correct, and heal us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

P Almighty God hears the faithful prayers of His people. Long before creation He chose us to be His children and heirs of eternal salvation. Through the death of Jesus Christ His Son we have peace with God. In His place, and by His command I forgive you all of your sins. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(Be Seated)

Sermon Hymn

O Light Whose Splendor

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr.; Tune: Clement C. Scholefield – “St. Clement”; LSB #891 © 2006 CPH

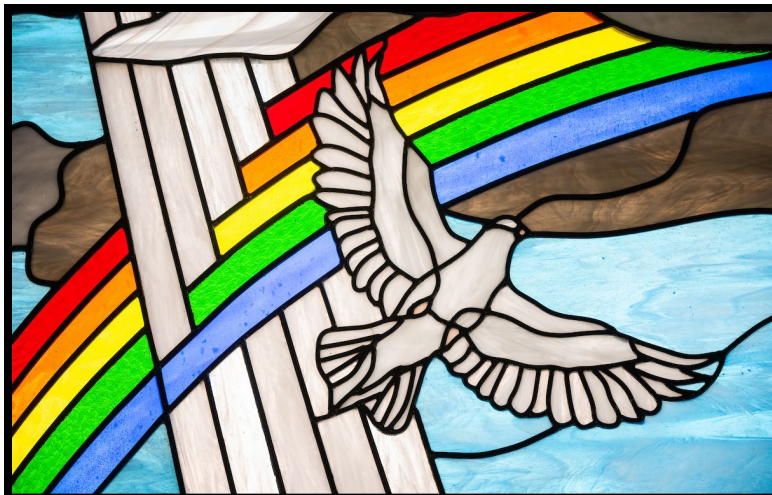
1 O Light whose splen - dor thrills and glad - dens
2 As twi - light hov - ers near at sun - set,
3 In all life's bril - liant time - less mo - ments,

With ra - diance bright - er than the sun,
And lamps are lit, and chil - dren nod,
Let faith - ful voic - es sing Your praise,

Pure gleam of God's un - end - ing glo - ry,
In eve - ning hymns we lift our voic - es
O Son of God, our Life - be - stow - er,

O Je - sus, blest A - noint - ed One;
To Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son: one God.
Whose glo - ry light - ens end - less days.

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Tune: Public domain



(Stand for Text)

Sermon

"It's About Time"



(Stand)

Votum

(Be Seated)

Offering

Voluntary

(Stand)

Prayers at the Turn of the Year

- P** Heavenly Father, God from everlasting to everlasting, to whom a thousand years are like one day, like yesterday already gone, or like a short hour in the night:
- C** *We adore and bless You as our Creator, the Giver of every good and perfect gift, the Source of all help, the God of our salvation.*
- P** Your gracious care has brought us to this day, and it is because of Your mercy that we have not been destroyed. Year by year You have spared and blessed us. You have not punished us as we deserve nor repaid us for our sins and wrongdoing. You have continued to speak to us in Your Word and graciously come to us in Your blessed Sacraments; You have blessed us through Your church.
- C** *You have filled our homes and hearts with good. We acknowledge Your constant love every morning, and Your faithfulness every night, and thank and praise Your holy Name.*
- P** Make the new year, we pray, a year of salvation for us. We enter this new year of our Lord in humble trust in Him whose name You called Jesus, because He came to save all people from their sins. There is no other name given under heaven, given among men whereby we may be saved.
- C** *May the holy Name of Jesus be our daily shelter and only hiding place. Grant that we may experience its power each day and, in His Name, may our prayers rise as incense before You.*
- P** Bless Your Church throughout the world and let Your Word be proclaimed everywhere that Your kingdom may be extended to the ends of the earth. Look upon our congregation with mercy and preserve among us the faithful preaching of Your Word and the right use of the holy Sacraments.
- C** *Do not let Your Word fail to achieve Your purposes, but open the hearts of the hearers to receive it gladly and to obey it willingly.*
- P** Bless our nation and all of its people in this new year. Give our leaders wisdom and power to administer justice and to work together for the good of all. Restore honor and integrity to our government and may self-interest and ambition be replaced by a compelling sense of duty and patriotism. Maintain peace in our land and throughout the world. Where American servicemen and women stand in defense of our country protect their lives and bring them safely home again.
- C** *Give success to all work in town and countryside; provide us with our daily bread, and keep us from sickness and all other ills. Crown the year with Your goodness so that Your glory may continue among us.*

P Watch over our homes; bless them with peace and happiness, and grant that all parents may rule their households in true godliness and bring up their children in reverence for You. Keep the privileged and the prosperous from worldly pride and poor and needy from murmuring, envy, and discontent.

C *Provide for widows and orphans and all who are lonely and afflicted, and have mercy on all who are sick. When the righteous cry, hear them and rescue them from all their troubles.*

P As all our days have been written in Your book even from eternity, we commit ourselves into your hands. Keep us from every evil of body and soul, and bless us with what You know is best. Help us in the new year to walk in newness of life, using every new day to love and do Your will, so that if this coming year may be our last on earth, we may at the appointed time end our life in peace and begin the new year of eternity in your perfect presence and to your never-ending praise.

C *Hear us, eternal God, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever. Amen.*

P O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.*

Words of Institution

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

(Be Seated)

Distribution & Hymns

We believe that Holy Communion is one of the most precious gifts that Christ has given his church. In the bread and wine of the sacrament, which is the true body and blood of Christ, we receive the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. By communing together as members of this congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod we acknowledge our common commitment to all of the doctrines of the Bible as they are confessed in our church. If you, as a visitor, wish to join us in that confession of unity in the faith we respectfully request that you speak with the pastor before coming to the Lord's Supper.

Across the Sky the Shades of Night

Text: James Hamilton & Gregory Wismar; Tune: Nicolaus Decius – “Allein Gott in der Höh”; LSB #899 © 2006 CPH



1 A - cross the sky the shades of night This New Year's Eve are
2 Be - fore the cross sub - dued we bow, To You our prayer ad -
3 We gath - er up in this brief hour The mem - 'ry of Your
4 We now re - mem - ber, as we pray, Our dear ones in Your



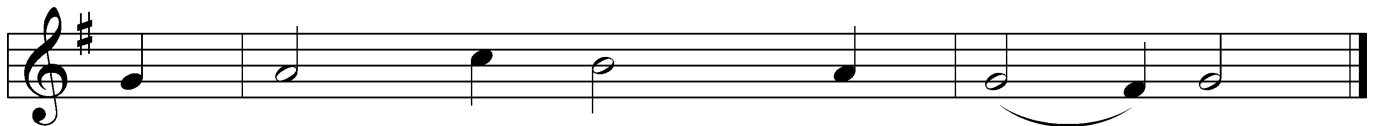
fleet - ing. We deck Your al - tar, Lord, with light, In
dress - ing, Re - count - ing all Your mer - cies now, And
mer - cies: Your won - drous good - ness, love, and pow'r Our
car - ing Who bright - ly shine in end - less day, Past



sol - emn wor - ship meet - ing; And as the year's last
all our sins con - fess - ing; Be - seech - ing You this
grate - ful song re - hears - es; For You have been our
death and all de - spair - ing. At our life's end, Lord,



hours go by, We raise to You our ear - nest cry,
com - ing year To keep us in Your faith and fear
strength and stay In man - y a dark and drea - ry day
as Your own, Bring us with them a - round Your throne,



Once more Your love en - treat - ing.
And crown us with Your bless - ing.
Of sor - row and re - vers - es.
The joys of heav - en shar - ing.

- 5 Then, gracious God, in years to come, We pray Your hand may guide us,
And, onward through our journey home, Your mercy walk beside us
Until at last our ransomed life Is safe from peril, toil, and strife
When heav'n itself shall hide us.

Just as I Am, without One Plea

Text: Charlotte Elliott; Tune: William B. Bradbury – “Woodworth”; LSB #570 © 2006 CPH



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
 2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a
 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to
 soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each
 con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -
 heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
 find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
 Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
 Because Thy promise I believe,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown
 Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
 Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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(Stand)

Song of Thanksgiving

Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

Text: Herbert Brokering; Tune: Carl Schalk – “Thine”; LSB #680 sts. 1, 3 © 2006 CPH

1 Thine the a - men Thine the praise Al - le -
3 Thine the tru - ly Thine the yes Thine the

lu - ias an - gels raise Thine the ev - er - last - ing head
ta - ble we the guest Thine the mer - cy all from Thee

Thine the break - ing of the bread Thine the glo - ry Thine the
Thine the glo - ry yet to be Then the ring - ing and the

sto - ry Thine the har - vest then the cup Thine the
sing - ing Then the end of all the war Thine the

vine-yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
liv - ing Thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.

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Benediction

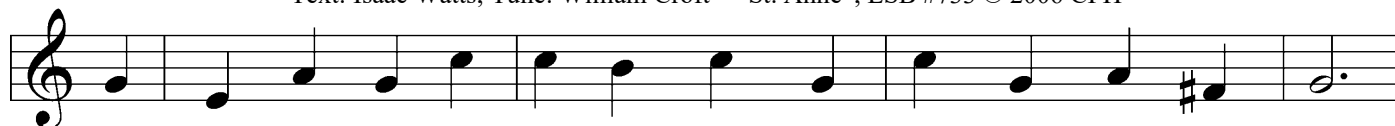
P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

C *Amen.*

Closing Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Text: Isaac Watts; Tune: William Croft – “St. Anne”; LSB #733 © 2006 CPH



- 1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad-ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou-sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!

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Postlude





**Let us give thanks to God for
the Year of Our Lord 2025,
and ask that He may graciously
go with us into the
Year of Our Lord 2026.**

+ + +

Soli Deo Gloria!

Acknowledgments

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