

New Year's Eve Worship
December 31, 2022 – 7:00 pm



Order of Service

Organist: Lisa Sprengeler; Ushers: Bob Rankin, Mike Sprengeler

Opening Prayer

- P Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
C **The light no darkness can overcome.**
- P Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening:
C **And the day is almost over.**
- P Be our light and scatter the darkness:
C **And hear our evening hymn of praise.**

P Lord God, we thank You for this day of grace now drawing to a close:
C **Stay with us and warm our hearts with Your forgiving love in Christ.**

P May Your Word keep our faith burning brightly:
C **That we may walk in the light of Your presence through the darkness of this world.**

P Come and bless us as we worship You:
C **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Hymn 728

How Firm a Foundation

Responsive Psalm Reading

Psalm 121

P I lift up my eyes to the hills—
C **Where does my help come from?**
P My help comes from the LORD,
C **The Maker of heaven and earth.**
P He will not let your foot slip—
C **He who watches over you will not slumber;**
P Indeed, he who watches over Israel
C **Will neither slumber nor sleep.**
P The LORD watches over you—
C **The LORD is your shade at your right hand;**
P The sun will not harm you by day,
C **Nor the moon by night.**
P The LORD will keep you from all harm—
C **He will watch over your life;**
P The LORD will watch over your coming and going
C **Both now and forevermore.**

Scripture Lessons

Joshua 1:1-9, Matthew 6:24-34
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Hymn 733

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Sermon

Text – 1 Samuel 7:10-13
(Page 5)

The Lord Is Our Faithful and Merciful Helper

1. So He has been in times past.
2. So He will be in the days ahead.

New Year's Eve Offering

Prayer

Confession of Sins & Words of Absolution

P Dear Friends in Christ: It is your desire to receive the Sacrament of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ for the assurance of the forgiveness of your sins, the strengthening of your faith in Him as your Savior, and the grace to serve Him with a God-pleasing life. In order that these blessings may be yours, it is necessary that you bear in mind the Word of God recorded by St. John in his First Epistle: "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." Deeply conscious of our guilt and trusting solely in the merits of Jesus Christ for forgiveness, let us make confession of our sins:

C Almighty God, I, a troubled and repentant sinner, confess that I have sinned against You in my thoughts, my words, and my actions. I have not loved You with my whole heart. I have not loved others as I should. I am distressed by the sins that trouble me and am deeply sorry for them.

P Jesus says to His people: "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." His death paid for the guilt of your sins and the sins of the whole world. Do you believe this? If so, then declare so by saying: "Yes, I believe." Because of the promise of our Savior Jesus, I forgive you all your sins. Be assured that you are a dear child of God and an heir of eternal life.

C O Lord, my God, I called to You for help, and You answered me. I thank You for the love You have shown me in Christ my Savior. Through Him You have rescued me from the guilt of my sin and given me the peace of forgiveness. Help me fight against temptation, correct whatever wrongs I can, and serve You and those around me with love and good works. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Sacrament

Post-Communion Prayer

P Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

P The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C (sings) Amen, amen, amen.

Closing Hymn

1. God brought me to this time and place Surrounded by His favor;
He guarded all my nights and days, His kindness did not waver.
His peace as sentinel He gave My spirit's health and joy to save.
To this day He has blessed me.
2. All honor, thanks, and praise to You, O Father, God of heaven,
For mercies ev'ry morning new, Which You have freely given.
Inscribe this on my memory: My Lord has done great things for me
To this day He has helped me.
3. Oh, help me ever, God of grace, Through ev'ry time and season,
At ev'ry turn, in ev'ry place – Redemptive love the reason.
Through joy and pain and final breath By Jesus' life and saving death
Help me as You have helped me!

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Member Congregation of the Church
of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

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Scripture Lessons

Joshua 1:1-9 – After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Great Sea on the west. No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Matthew 6:24-34 – "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money. Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 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. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

Sermon Text

1 Samuel 7:10-13 – While Samuel was sacrificing the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to engage Israel in battle. But that day the LORD thundered with loud thunder against the Philistines and threw them into such a panic that they were routed before the Israelites. The men of Israel rushed out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, slaughtering them along the way to a point below Beth Car. Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far has the LORD helped us." So the Philistines were subdued and did not invade Israelite territory again. Throughout Samuel's lifetime, the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines.