

Salem Lutheran Church
New Year's Eve

Pastor Bare & Pastor Wilde
December 31, 2020

Welcome

Introduction: **WE REMEMBER OUR GOD!**

Hymn 441, vv 1,2,3

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.

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

Psalm 90

P: Lord, you have been our dwelling place

C: **throughout all generations.**

P: Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world

C: **from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

P: For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by;

C: **or like a watch in the night.**

P: You have set our iniquities before you

C: **our secret sins in the light of your presence.**

P: You turn mortals back to dust

C: **You sweep them away in the sleep of death.**

P: The length of our days is seventy years – or eighty, if we have the strength,

C: **yet their span is but trouble and sorrow.**

P: Teach us to number our days aright,

C: **that we may gain a heart of wisdom.**

P: Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love.

C: **that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.**

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.**

Hymn 441, vv 4,5,6

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

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;
We fly, forgotten, as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!

Confession of Sins

All: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sins. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, You should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

Isaiah 43:25 **We Remember Our God Who Doesn't Remember Our Sins**
*I, yes I, am he. I blot out your rebellious deeds for my own sake,
and I will not remember your sins.*

Absolution

P: Christ was born. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Prayer

P: Eternal Father, before whom all generations rise and fall, teach us to think earnestly on the brevity of our lives and on the immensity of your goodness. Help us to enter the new year trusting in the name of your Son and walking in the way of his peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Titus 3:4-7 **We Remember Our God Who Placed His Name on Us in Baptism**
*But when the kindness and love of God our Savior toward mankind appeared,
he saved us—not by righteous works that we did ourselves, but because of his mercy.
He saved us through the washing of rebirth and the renewal by the Holy Spirit,
whom he poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior,
so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs
in keeping with the hope of eternal life.*

Hymn 297

Baptized in Water

**Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:
Heirs of salvation, Trusting his promise,
Faithfully now God's praise we sing.**

**Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:
One with his rising, Freed and forgiven,
Thankfully now God's praise we sing.**

**Baptized in water, Sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ our King:
Born of one Father, We are his children;
Joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

Isaiah 49:14-16

We Remember Our God Who Will Never Forget Us

But Zion said, "The Lord has abandoned me. The Lord has forgotten me."

Can a woman forget her nursing child

and not show mercy to the son from her womb?

Even if these women could forget, I will never forget you.

Look, I have inscribed you on the palms of my hands.

Your walls are never out of my sight.

Hymn 428

Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me

Why should cross and trial grieve me?

Christ is near With his cheer; Never will he leave me.

Who can rob me of the heaven

That God's Son For me won When his life was given?

When life's troubles rise to meet me,

Though their weight May be great, They will not defeat me.

God, my loving Savior, sees them;

He who knows All my woes Knows how best to end them.

God gives me my days of gladness,

And I will Trust him still When he sends me sadness.

God is good; his love attends me

Day by day, Come what may, Guides me and defends me.

Since I know God never fails me,

In his voice I'll rejoice When grim death assails me.

Trusting in my Savior's merit,

Safe at last, Troubles past, I shall heav'n inherit.

Prayers

P: I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

C: Every day I will praise you and extol your name.

P: It is fitting, O Lord, in the final hours of this year, to express our gratitude for the countless gifts of grace we have received from you.

C: You have been faithful to your promises and loving toward all you have made.

P: You clothe your creation with beauty; you feed even the birds and tell us that we are much more valuable than they.

C: You know what we need, and you give us all good things.

P: Clothing and food, safety and health, possessions and money, even life itself—all these come to us from your generous hand.

C: We thank you for these blessings, and we ask that you continue to grant them to us.

P: We thank you especially for your Word and Holy Supper, which strengthen our faith, shield us from temptation, and equip us for service.

C: Increase our commitments to these precious gifts, so that we may continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

P: Almighty and eternal God, you have been gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and rich in love. As you led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, so lead us by the light of your Word that we may live our lives to your glory and be prepared to die in your peace.

C: **We ask these things in the name of Jesus. In his name we began this year; in his name we bring it to a close. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

All: 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn 312, vv 1,4

Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

**Lord Jesus Christ, you have prepared
This feast for our salvation;
It is your body and your blood,
And at your invitation
As weary souls, with sin oppressed,
We come to you for needed rest,
For comfort, and for pardon.**

**We eat this bread and drink this cup,
Your precious Word believing
That your true body and your blood
Our lips are here receiving.
This Word remains forever true,
And there is naught you cannot do,
For you, Lord, are almighty.**

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 We Remember Our God through His Gift of Communion

*For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you:
The Lord Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread,
and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said,
"This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."
In the same way, after the meal, he also took the cup, saying,
"This cup is the new testament in my blood.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

Hymn 312, vv 7,8

**Grant that we worthily receive
Your supper, Lord, our Savior,
And, truly grieving for our sins,
May prove by our behavior
That we are thankful for your grace
And day by day may run our race,
In holiness increasing.**

**For your consoling supper, Lord,
Be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place
The world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be
A blessed comfort unto me
When living and when dying.**

The Distribution

Prayer

P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

John 6:37-40

**We Remember Our God Who Remembers Our Loved Ones
Who Died Trusting In Him**

*Everyone the Father gives me will come to me,
and the one who comes to me I will never cast out.
For I have come down from heaven, not to do my will,
but the will of him who sent me.
And this is the will of him who sent me:
that I should lose none of those he has given me,
but raise them up on the Last Day.
For this is the will of my Father:
that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life.
And I will raise him up on the Last Day.”*

Hymn 727

There Is a Higher Throne

**There is a higher throne than all this world has known,
Where faithful ones from ev'ry tongue will one day come.
Before the Son we'll stand, made faultless through the Lamb;
Believing hearts find promised grace; salvation comes.**

Refrain

Hear heaven's voices sing; their thund'rous anthem rings.
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, pow'r, strength, thanks, and honor are
to God our King who reigns on high forevermore.

And there we'll find our home, our life before the throne.
We'll honor him in perfect song where we belong.
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye as thirst and hunger die.
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd-King; we'll reign with him.

Refrain

Hear heaven's voices sing; their thund'rous anthem rings.
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, pow'r, strength, thanks, and honor are
to God our King who reigns on high forevermore.

Numbers 6:22-27; Psalm 121: 7,8

**We Remember Our God Who Blesses Us,
Day after Day and Year after Year**

*The Lord told Moses to speak to Aaron and to his sons
and to tell them to bless the Israelites with these words:*

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

In this way they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

The Lord will watch to keep you from all harm.

He will watch over your life.

The Lord will watch over your going and your coming from now to eternity.

Hymn 765

Day by Day

Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,
Bringing comfort to my anxious soul.
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me
Draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,
Brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,
Where, at last, I'll find eternal rest.

Day by day, I know you will provide me
Strength to serve and wisdom to obey;
I will seek your loving will to guide me
O'er the paths I struggle day by day.
I will fear no evil of the morrow;
I will trust in your enduring grace.

**Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow;
Till in glory I behold your face.**

**Oh, what joy to know that you are near me
When my burdens grow too great to bear;
Oh, what joy to know that you will hear me
When I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.
Day by day, no matter what betide me,
You will hold me ever in your hand.
Savior, with your presence here to guide me,
I will reach at last the promised land.**