

New Year's Eve



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
December 31, 2012



WELCOME

HYMN

"The Old Year Now Has Passed Away"
Christian Worship #71

STAND

ADMISSION OF GUILT AND FORGIVENESS

M: Lord, we confess to you the known and unknown sins of 2012:

ALL: Dear God, we have not honored you above all things. We have pursued our own interests instead. We have allowed the world and our sinful nature to identify the prizes of life. We have cherished the very things you hate; we have avoided what you love. Cleanse us, heal us, and renew us, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

M: "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." Jesus trades his obedience for your disobedience. For all your sins of the past year, God doesn't give you what you deserve—justice; instead you get what you don't deserve—mercy! His death means your life; your sins are forgiven! By his death and resurrection, the Lord has forgiven your past and secured your future with him.

C: Amen!

HYMN OF CONFIDENCE AND PRAISE (Christian Worship #304 st. 6-7)



6. Oh, how blest it is to know, Were as scar - let my trans-gres - sion,
7. Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive. E - ven I have been for - giv - en.



It shall be as white as snow By your blood and bit - ter pas - sion,
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an o - pen heav - en.



For these words I do be - lieve-- Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
Dy - ing, still to him I cleave-- Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

BE SEATED

SERMON

1 KINGS 8:54-61

DEDICATE YOURSELF TO THE LORD WITH A NEW HEART

When Solomon had finished all these prayers and supplications to the Lord, he rose from before the altar of the Lord, where he had been kneeling with his hands spread out toward heaven. He stood and blessed the whole assembly of Israel in a loud voice, saying: "Praise be to the Lord, who has given rest to his people Israel just as he promised. Not one word has failed of all the good promises he gave through his servant Moses. May the Lord our God be with us as he was with our fathers; may he never leave us nor forsake us. May he turn our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways and to keep the commands, decrees and regulations he gave our fathers. And may these words of mine, which I have prayed before the Lord, be near to the Lord our God day and night, that he may uphold the cause of his servant and the cause of his people Israel according to each day's need, so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the Lord is God and that there is no other. But your hearts must be fully committed to the Lord our God, to live by his decrees and obey his commands, as at this time."

OFFERING

Members of Grace respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully, generously, regularly, and in a way that is proportionate to how the Lord has blessed them. Their cheerful gifts support the mission and ministry of our congregation. If you are a guest today, please know that we do not expect you to contribute to our congregation's work. However, if you would like to give an offering to the Lord in response to his love to you, we are happy to receive it and put it to work in God's kingdom.

Please fill out the Friendship Register located in the red folder at the end of the pew and pass along. Thank You!

OFFERTORY MUSIC

All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night Arr. by Valerie Floeter

DEPARTED MEMBERS REMEMBERED

In this New Year's Eve service we remember the Christian brothers and sisters of Grace whom the Lord has welcomed home to heaven in this past year.

HYMN

"Across the Sky the Shades of Night" st. 1-4
Christian Worship #69



1. A - cross the sky the shades of night This New Year's Eve are
2. We gath - er up in this brief hour The mem - 'ry of your
3. Be - fore the cross, sub - dued, we bow, To you our prayers ad -
4. And while we pray, we lift our eyes To dear ones gone be -



fleet - ing. We deck your al - tar, Lord, with light, In sol - emn wor - ship
mer - cies. Your won - drous good - ness, love, and pow'r Our grate - ful song re -
dress - ing, Re - count - ing all your mer - cies now And all our sins con -
fore us, Safe home with you in Par - a - dise, Where Je - sus will reign



meet - ing, And, as the year's last hours go by, We raise to you our
hears - es, For you have been our strength and stay In man - y a dark and
fess - ing. We ask you, Lord, this com - ing year To keep us in your
o'er us, And ask of you, when life is past, To re - u - nite us



ear - nest cry, Once more your love en - treat - ing.
drear - y day Of sor - row and re - vers - es.
faith and fear And crown us with your bless - ing.
all at last With those who've gone be - fore us.

PLEASE STAND

M: Moses has written about our God, "You turn mortals back to dust. You sweep them away in the sleep of death . . . The length of our days is seventy years--eighty years if we have the strength. Yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away. Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Psalm 90).

M: We celebrate our family members who have escaped the sorrows of this world and now, because Jesus is their Savior, enjoy the eternal pleasures of heaven:

Ambrose Taras
Arlo Cook

Bruce Hawkins
Lynda Nessinger

Mary Wright
Marilyn Warskow

Beverly Wagner-King
Bill O'Donald

HYMN

"Across the Sky the Shades of Night" st. 5



5. Then, gra - cious God, in years to come, What - ev - er may be -
tide us, Right on - ward through our jour - ney home, Oh, stay at hand to
guide us, Nor leave us till, at close of life, Safe from all per - il,
toil, and strife, Heav'n shall en - fold and hide us.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PRAYER

M: It is fitting, O Lord, in the final hours of 2012, 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.

M: Once again, you have clothed your creation with beauty; you have fed even the birds and have shown us that we are much more valuable than they.

C: You know what we need and you have given us all good things.

M: 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 the way you have blessed us with all this and more during the past year.

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

C: As we think about these blessings tonight, we realize we have taken them for granted at times during this past year. Forgive us for our apathy and increase our desire and appreciation for your gifts of grace.

Special prayers and intercessions

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

Silent prayer

M: Almighty and eternal God, it is surely you who has saved us. We will trust in you and not be afraid! As you led your people through difficult times in the past, you have also led us. Most importantly, you have led us from the bondage of sin and death into a new life with you. Continue to lead us by the light of your Word that we may live our lives to your glory now and be prepared to sing your praises forever in heaven.

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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung to "Away in a Manger")

1. Our Fa - ther in heav - en, all praise to your name! Your
2. The bread that we yearn for pro - vide us each day; As
3. For Yours is the king - dom; O'er all things You reign. And

king - dom a - mong us, Your will done the same By
we for - give oth - ers, our sins take a - way; In
Yours is the pow - er; all things You main - tain. To

mor - tals and an - gels. Come, Lord, reign a - lone: Oh,
times of temp - ta - tion, to lead us be near; From
You be the glo - ry, re - sound - ing a - gain From

hear us and bless us from heav - en's high throne.
e - vil de - liv - er Your child - ren most dear.
all of cre - a - tion, for - ev - er! A - men.

BE SEATED

HYMN

"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"
Christian Worship #309

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Tonight we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Jesus urges all who receive it to do so in a worthy manner in order to receive the blessings he promises. He also gives warning that no one receive it to their judgment. For this reason, we practice Member Communion. If you are a guest at Grace tonight and not a member of another WELS congregation, we would ask that you speak with one of the pastors about a time to discuss what exactly God says about Holy Communion before you come to the Lord's Table. We look forward to that opportunity!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

PLEASE STAND

PRAYER & BENEDICTION

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

M: The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people. *Rev. 22:21*

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

"Father, Let Me Dedicate"
Christian Worship #75

POSTLUDE

Be Thou My Vision *Arr. by Victor Labenske*

Those Assisting in Worship this Evening

Service Leader Pastor Ron Koehler
Communion Assistant.....Pastor Nathan Kassulke
Accompanist.....Kathy Parra
Clarinet Missy Wiechmann

We wish you God's Blessings in 2013!

Thank you for joining us for worship this New Year's Eve. If you are a guest with us today and do not have a church home, we would consider it a special privilege to share God's Word with you on a regular basis. Please take a guest packet from the table near the exit to learn more about Grace and the ministries God has allowed us to undertake.

We invite you to join us for these upcoming special worship opportunities:

- **Branches Band, Sunday, January 6 at 7:45 and 10:00 AM.** The WELS group Branches Band will be our guest musicians during our Epiphany worship services at Grace-University.
- **Mission Festival and Chupala Lunch, Sunday, January 20.** Join us at Grace-University for Mission Festival, including guest preacher Pastor Matt Vogt, who is the Chairman of our District Mission Board. In the Bible study hour he will share with us information about WELS Home Missions. After the 10:00 Worship Service, the Lifeliners (our high school youth group) will host their annual Chupala Lunch. Donations to the Lifeliners for the lunch are appreciated.
- **Stephen Bautista, Sunday, February 17 at 10:00 AM.** WELS singer Stephen Bautista will be the guest musician at Grace-Vail. Join us to hear some of his original Christian songs in our regular worship service that Sunday.

Regular Sunday Worship Schedule

At Grace-Vail

Worshiping at Cottonwood
Elementary 9950 E. Rees Loop

9:00 AM	Children's Sunday School
9:00 AM	Adult Bible Study
10:00 AM	Worship Service

At Grace-University

830 N. First Avenue

7:45 AM	Worship Service
8:45 AM	Children's Sunday School
9:00 AM	Adult Bible Study
10:00 AM	Worship Service



