

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH—62 Years of Grace

Littleton, Colorado

NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP—DECEMBER 31, 2018 - 3:00 PM



Watch

N I G H T

DIVINE SERVICE

Prelude “Drummer Boy/Pat-a-pan”

Diane Bish

Pastoral Greeting

PASTOR LARSON

Tolling of the Bell

Congregation, please stand.

Hymn of Worship Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”

LSB 940

INVOCATION and OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Pastor O LORD, ur Lord,

People **how majestic is Your name in all the earth!**

Pastor Out of the mouth of babies and infants,

People **You have established strength because of Your foes.**

Pastor O LORD, our Lord,

People **how majestic is Your name in all the earth!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor O LORD, our Lord,

People **We, Your people who are created in Your image, are all sinful and unclean from our birth onward. We have therefore not loved You with our whole heart, soul, mind, and strength, and we have not loved other people as ourselves. Forgive us for Jesus’ sake. Fill us with Your Spirit that we may be conformed to Jesus’ image and follow Him all our days.**

Pastor Out of the kingdom of darknes, the Holy Trinity calls us by His name in Holy Baptism and re-creates us by His Word and Spirit to be conformed to the image of Christ. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**



WATCH NIGHT

Jazz Hymns of Praise

from Hymns for Praise and Worship

(Please listen and swing the beat as demonstrated.)

JOY TO THE WORLD (ANTIOCH)

*Leader: Joy, Joy, Joy to the world the Lord is come, the Lord is come!
Joy to the world the Lord is come Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and nature sing And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing*

**People: Joy to the earth the Savior reigns Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods Rocks hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy Repeat repeat the sounding joy
No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found Far as far as the curse is found**

*Leader: Joy, Joy, Joy to the world the Lord is come, the Lord is come!
Joy, Joy, Joy to the world the Lord is come, the Lord is come!*

**People: He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love And wonders wonders of His love**

Leader: Joy, Joy, Joy to the world the Lord is come, the Lord is come!

**People: Joy, Joy, Joy to the world the Lord is come, the Lord is come!
Joy, Joy, Joy to the world the Lord is come, the Lord is come!**

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH (GLORIA)

*Leader: Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountain in reply Echoing their joyous strains*

(REFRAIN X 2): Glory! Gloria! Glory! Gloria! Glory! Gloria! Gloria! In excelsis Deo!

**People: Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song**

*(REFRAIN X 2): Glory! Gloria! Glory! Gloria! Glory! Gloria! Gloria! In excelsis Deo!
Come to Bethlehem and see Him Whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee Christ the Lord the newborn King*

(REFRAIN X 2): Glory! Gloria! Glory! Gloria! Glory! Gloria! Gloria! In excelsis Deo!

O GOD OUR HELP IN AGES PAST (ST. ANNE)

*Leader: O God our help in ages past Our hope for years to come
Our shelter from the stormy blast
And our eternal home... And our eternal home*

**People: Under the shadow of Your throne Your saints have dwelt secure
Sufficient is Your arm alone
And our defense is sure...And our defense is sure
Before the hills in order stood Or earth received her frame
From everlasting Thou are God
To endless years the same... To endless years the same
O God, our help in ages past, Our Hope for years to come,
Be Thou our Guide while life shall last,
And our eternal Home....And our eternal Home!**

Prayer of the Day

Pastor The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Pastor Let us pray. 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.

People Amen.



SERVICE OF THE WORD

Old Testament: Isaiah 30:15-17

(Sometimes God's people do not rely on His promise of salvation.)

This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. You said, 'No, we will flee on horses.' Therefore you will flee! You said, 'We will ride off on swift horses.' Therefore your pursuers will be swift! A thousand will flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five you will all flee away, till you are left like a flagstaff on a mountaintop, like a banner on a hill."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

Epistle: Romans 8:31b-39

(If God is for us, who can be against us?)

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, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

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

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

Congregation, please stand for the reading of the Holy Gospel.



Be dressed
for action
and have your
lamps lit.

LUKE 12:35, NRSV

Gospel: Luke 12:35-40
(Jesus exhorts vigilance every day.)

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

People **Glory to You, O Lord.**

“Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

Pastor The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to You, O Christ.**



Hymn of the Day

"Evening and Morning"

LSB 726

Sermon "The Final Hours"

PASTOR LARSON
Text: Ephesians 5:15-17

Apostles' Creed

LSB *Inside back-cover*

Prayer of the Church

Pastor God is our refuge and strength in all generations. Standing on the doorstep of another year of His grace, let us thank and praise Him for all of His benefits to us: For the gift of life, for food and drink, for house and home, for all that we need to support this body and life,

People we thank You, Lord.

Pastor For the beauty of Your creation; for the gifts of art and music to enrich our worship, for the freedoms we enjoy to worship and serve You as is proper. For those whom You have placed in our lives: our spouses, parents and children; our friends and neighbors; our co-workers, our pastors and teachers,

People we thank You, Lord.

Pastor For the blessings of health and contentment in the year to come; for the strength of faith to trust in all of Your promises, love, and care for us. For all who are caught up in or devastated by conflict, all who suffer illness (*especially ...*), bring Your mercy and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

People hear our prayer.

Pastor ...Additional intercessions may be added here. Lord, in Your mercy,

People hear our prayer.

Pastor For the spread of the Gospel, that You would give us courage and strength to seize opportunities to boldly share the love of Christ in word and action. Lord, in Your mercy,

People hear our prayer for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Another Year of Grace



Sharing of the Peace

Pastor The peace of the
Lord be with you
always.

People **And also with you.**

*You may now greet one
another in the name of the
Lord using
...Peace be with you*



THE OFFERING

OFFERINGS

“O Holy Night”

arr. Adolphe Adam
Rachel Becker, soloist

Offertory Prayer

Pastor *Let us pray,*

People **Lord Jesus, Your generosity knows no bounds! You provide all good things in temporal and eternal life. Your Holy Spirit works faith in our hearts to trust You for all things. Receive this small portion of all that You have entrusted to our care. Use it to spread the Good News of Your forgiving Gospel. We pray in Your most holy precious name. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION

The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with “Amen!”, a word of affirmation and belief.



The **LORD'S SUPPER**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT



The Preface

Pastor The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Pastor Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor It is truly good, 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:

The Sanctus (Sung to the tune: *Angels We Have Heard on High*)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God by high-est hosts a - dored.
Sing ho - san - na, saints a - bove, with the an - gels sing God's love.

Heav'n and earth Your glo - ry sing: With them we our prais - es bring.
Bless-ed He, the com - ing One, God the Fa - ther's on - ly Son.

Refrain
Glo - ri - a
in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - ri - a
ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

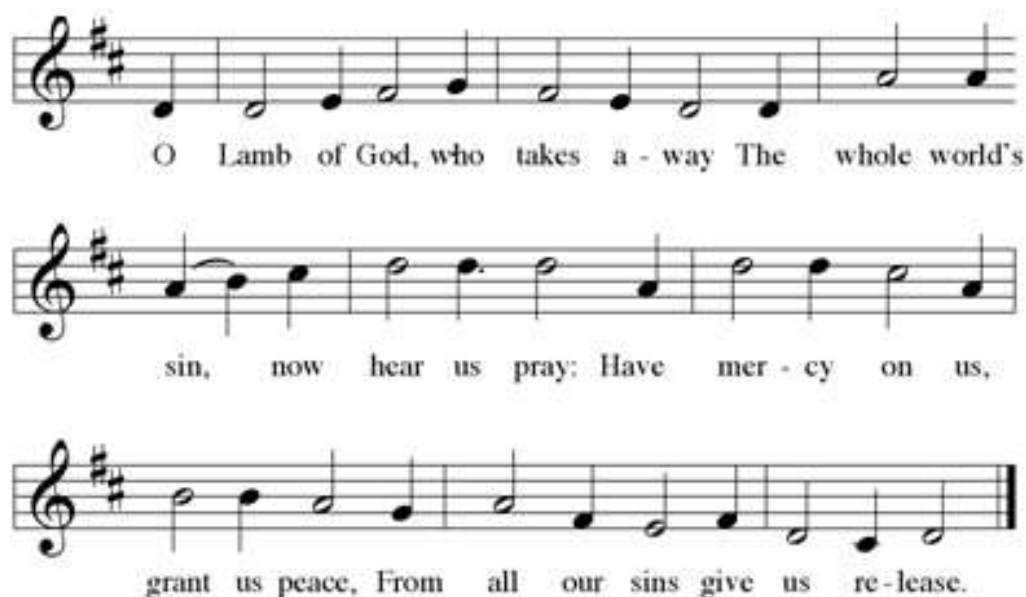
Words of Consecration

Pastor In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Agnus Dei Tune: Dix ("On Jordans Bank the Baptist's Cry")



O Lamb of God, who takes a - way The whole world's
sin, now hear us pray; Have mer - cy on us,
grant us peace, From all our sins give us re-lease.

Hymns during the Distribution

"There is a Time for Everything"

LSB 762

(Verse 1– Solo)

"Christ Be My Leader"

LSB 861

"Across the Sky and Shades of Night"

LSB 899

The Communion Benediction

Pastor The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

People Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

Pastor We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

Benediction

Pastor The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

People Amen.

Benediction Hymn “How Firm a Foundation”
Verses 1-2, 4

LSB 728

Congregational Concerns

Pastor Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God!

Postlude “Caroling, Caroling”

Alfred Burt





New
Beginnings

Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT	The Rev. John R. Larson, Pastor
ELDER	Don Loptien
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES	Michael Zehnder
CHOIR	Ascension Chorale
ACCOMPANIST	Diana Gaide
LECTOR	Pastor John Larson
USHERS	Members of the Congregation
ALTAR GUILD	Gloria Mielke, Dawn Munson, Charmaine Rohde, Barbara Williams
FLOWERS	The Harvey & Kabelman Families in loving memory of Brandon