

# Watch Night



*Therefore keep  
watch, because you  
do not know the day  
or the hour.*

*Matthew 25:13*

## New Year's Eve Worship

Calvary Lutheran Church and School  
December 31, 2018 + 7:00 p.m.

9807 Church Road  
Dallas, Texas 75238  
214-348-5567

# Watch Night

## Christian Vigil on New Year's Eve

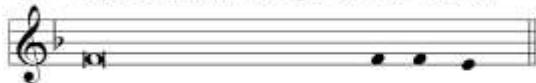
*Watch Night: New Year's Eve presents a problem for worship planners because the propers provided for December 31 emphasize the "Name of Jesus" but the people's expectations are on the changing of the calendar year. A name sometimes given for the night of December 31, Watch Night, suggests a solution to this problem. The church's way of watching is the vigil, a service of Scripture readings that concern time the work of God in time. The service is organized in these three divisions: the Service of Light, the Vigil (kept by God's people through psalms, lessons, and sermon), and the celebration of the Lord's Supper.*

### Service of Light

*Please stand*



**M:** Jesus Christ is the light of the world,



**C:** the light no darkness can o - ver - come.



**M:** Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve-ning,



**C:** and the day is almost o - ver.



**M:** Be our light and scat - ter the dark-ness,



**C:** and hear our evening hymn of praise.

## EVENING HYMN

31 – O Lord of Light, Who Made the Stars

Verses 1-5 – Soloists

Verse 6 – Congregation



1 O Lord of light, who made the stars,  
2 In low - li - ness you came to earth  
3 To pay the debt we owed for sin,  
4 But now you reign, the King of kings,  
5 Great Judge of all, on earth's last day



O Dawn, by whom we see the way,  
To res - cue us from Sa - tan's snares,  
Your pain - ful cross was made the price;  
A - dored in high - est maj - es - ty;  
Have pit - y on your chil - dren's plight.



O Christ, Re - deem - er of the world:  
O won - drous Love that healed our wounds  
From bless - ed Mar - y's womb you came,  
Your ver - y name is held in awe  
Rise up to shield us with your grace;



Come now and lis - ten as we pray.  
By tak - ing on our mor - tal cares,  
A vic - tim pure for sac - ri - fice.  
From pole to pole and sea to sea.  
De - liv - er us from Sa - tan's might. A - men.

6 To God the Father and the Son  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,  
Praise, honor, might, and glory be  
From age to age eternally. Amen

Text: Latin hymn, c. 9th century; tr. Melvin Farrell, b. 1930, alt. © 1993 World Library Publications,  
Franklin Park, IL, [www.wlpmusic.com](http://www.wlpmusic.com). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM (LM) Sarum plainsong, c. 9th century.

## PRAYER

**M** Eternal Father, before whom all times and seasons rise and fall, teach us to think earnestly on the shortness of our lives and on the immensity of your grace. Help us to enter this new year trusting in the name of your Son and walking in his peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** (spoken) Amen.

## EVENING CANTICLE



**C:** Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense, the lift - ing  
up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice. O Lord, I  
call to you; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice when I  
cry to you. Let my prayer rise be - fore you as in - cense,  
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

**M** Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** (spoken) Amen.

*Be seated*

## Psalms and Lessons

### PSALM 130

305 – From Depths of Woe I Cry to You



1 From depths of woe I cry to you; Lord, hear me,  
2 Your love and grace a-lone a-vail To blot out  
3 There-fore my hope is in the Lord And not in  
4 My soul is wait-ing for the Lord As one who



I im-plore you. Bend down your gra-cious ear to me;  
my trans-gres-sion. The best and ho-liest deeds must fail  
my own mer-it; It rests up-on his faith-ful Word  
longs for morn-ing; No watch-er waits with great-er hope



My prayer let come be-fore you. If you kept  
To break sin's dread op-pres-sion. Be-fore you  
To them of con-trite spir-it. That he is  
Than I for his re-turn-ing. I hope as



rec-ord of my sin And held a-gainst me  
none can boast-ing stand, But all must fear your  
mer-ci-ful and just— This is my com-fort  
Is-rael in the Lord; He sends re-demp-tion



what I've been, How could I stand be-fore you?  
strict de-mand And live a-lone by mer-cy.  
and my trust. His help I wait with pa-tience.  
through his Word. We praise him for his mer-cy.

*Silence for meditation*

**M** God of might and compassion, open your ears to the prayers of your people, who wait for you. Do not leave us in the depths of our sins, but listen to your Church pleading for the fullness of your redemption; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** (spoken) Amen.

PSALM 136

570 (The Lutheran Hymnal) – Praise, Oh, Praise, Our God and King

All.....1 Praise, oh, praise, our God and King, Hymns of ad - o - ra - tion sing;  
 All.....2 Praise Him that He made the sun Day by day his course to run;  
 Women.....3 And the sil - ver moon by night, Shin - ing with her gen - tle light;  
 Men.....4 Praise Him that He gave the rain To ma - ture the swell - ing grain;

For His mer - cies still en - dure, Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er sure.  
 For His mer - cies still en - dure, Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er sure.  
 For His mer - cies still en - dure, Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er sure.  
 For His mer - cies still en - dure, Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er sure. A - men.

Women..... 5 And hath bid the fruitful field  
 Crops of precious increase yield;  
 For His mercies still endure,  
 Ever faithful, ever sure.

Men..... 6 Praise Him for our harvest store,  
 He hath filled the garner floor;  
 For His mercies still endure,  
 Ever faithful, ever sure.

All..... 7 And for richer food than this,  
 Pledge of everlasting bliss;  
 For His mercies still endure,  
 Ever faithful, ever sure.

All..... 8 Glory to our bounteous King,  
 Glory let creation sing;  
 Glory to the Father, Son,  
 And the Spirit, Three in One!

*Silence for meditation*

**M** God of everlasting love, through your Word you made all things in heaven and on earth; you have opened to us the path from death to life. Listen to the hymn of resurrection sung by your church, and give us your blessing; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C (spoken) Amen.**

**LESSON**

1 John 2:15-20

**PSALM 90**

441 – O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne Your  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or  
4 A - thou - sand a - ges in your sight Are  
5 Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, Soon



hope for years to come, Our shel - ter from the  
saints have dwelt se - cure; Suf - fi - cient is your  
earth re - ceived its frame, From ev - er - last - ing  
like an eve - ning gone, Short as the watch that  
bears us all a - way; We fly, for - got - ten,



storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home,  
arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.  
you are God, To end - less years the same.  
ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun,  
as a dream Dies at the op'n - ing day.

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

*Silence for meditation*

**M** Eternal God and Father, keep us mindful of the shortness and frailty of this present life. Give us hearts of wisdom that we may cling in faith to Jesus, our Savior, and use the time of our pilgrimage on earth to serve him with joyful hearts, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C (spoken) Amen.**

# LESSON

Matthew 25:31-46

*Please stand for reading of the gospel; be seated when the lesson is finished.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

69 – Across the Sky the Shades of Night



1 A - cross the sky the shades of night This  
 2 We gath - er up in this brief hour The  
 3 Be - fore the cross, sub - dued, we bow, To  
 4 And while we pray, we lift our eyes To  
 5 Then gra - cious God, in years to come, What -



New Year's Eve are fleet - ing. We deck your al - tar,  
 mem - 'ry of your mer - cies. Your won - drous good - ness,  
 you our prayers ad - dress - ing, Re - count - ing all your  
 dear ones gone be - fore us, Safe home with you in  
 ev - er may be - tide us, Right on - ward through our



Lord, with light, In sol - emn wor - ship meet - ing, And,  
 love, and pow'r Our grate - ful song re - hears - es, For  
 mer - cies now And all our sins con - fess - ing. We  
 Par - a - dise, Where Je - sus will reign o'er us, And  
 jour - ney home, Oh, stay at hand to guide us, Nor



as the year's last hours go by, We raise to you our  
 you have been our strength and stay In man - y a dark and  
 ask you, Lord, this com - ing year To keep us in your  
 ask of you, when life is past, To re - u - nite us  
 leave us till, at close of life, Safe from all per - il,



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,  
 toil, and strife, Heav'n shall en - fold and hide us.

## Honest Expectations for the Year to Come

1. What we have
2. What we will do

*Stand*

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

## GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

*Please stand*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray for the whole Church and for all people according to their needs.

Lord God, we praise You for sending Your Son to fulfill the Law on our behalf. We thank You that although we sin much, He is our righteousness. Thank You for the countless blessings You have given this past year — for the whole of our lives, our well-being and that You do not withhold from us Your saving Word. Teach us to number our days so that the blessings and distractions of this life never turn our hearts from You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, You have been our dwelling place in every generation, but our years pass quickly. As this year draws to a close, prepare our hearts for Your Son's return. Forgive the sins of this past year — both known and unknown. Heal any division in our families, friendships and in this church, and keep us faithful to Christ our Lord in the coming year, repentant of our sins and confident in His mercy and truth. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Father, calm the hearts of those who look to the future with foreboding or fear, rather than with confidence and hope. For all who face illness, pain and suffering, and those to whom death draws near, give the peace that only You can give. [*We pray especially for...*] Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, bless this land in the new year. Give us honest work, effective education and leaders of good character. Save us from violence and discord, bringing harmony where there is division. As we elect new officials in the coming year, guide us to make wise decisions and establish policies and laws that serve the common good. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, by Your incarnation You joined divinity to humanity and humanity to divinity. Keep far from us all doubts about You, knowing that as the God-Man You have won our salvation. Give us faith in Your promises, and make us worthy, through simple faith, to eat and drink Your body and blood for our forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*Be seated*

# Celebration of the Lord's Supper

## THE EXHORTATION

**M** Dearly beloved: Since we intend to come to the Lord's Supper, it is proper that we examine ourselves carefully as Saint Paul encourages us, "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:28). For Christ instituted this Holy Supper for the special comfort and strengthening of those who humbly confess their sins and hunger and thirst after righteousness.

But if we examine ourselves in this way, we will find nothing but sin and death in us from which we cannot free ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us and has taken our nature upon himself. In doing this he won our salvation by fulfilling the will and law of God for us and by suffering death and all that our sins deserved. In order that we might grow stronger in our faith through which we also serve God with lives of love, Christ has instituted this sacrament of Holy Communion, in which he feeds us with his body and gives us his blood to drink. Therefore, whoever eats of this bread and drinks of this cup, firmly believing the words of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him, and has forgiveness, life and salvation.

We should also do this in remembrance of him, proclaiming his death, that he was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. At the same time, we thank him for all he has done for us, take up our cross and follow him, and, according to his command, love one another as he loved us. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we all partake of this one bread and drink this one cup.



## CONFESSION

**M** I now ask you before God, who searches the heart:

1. Do you sincerely confess that you have sinned against God and deserved his wrath and punishment? Then declare so by saying: **I do confess.**

Truly, you should so confess, for the Holy Scriptures declare: "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." (1 John 1:8).

2. Do you repent from the heart of all your sins committed in thought, word, and deed? Then declare so by saying: **I do repent.**

Truly, you should so repent, as did the penitent sinners: King David, who prayed for a contrite heart; Peter, who wept bitterly; the sinful woman; the prodigal son; and others.

3. Do you sincerely believe that God, by grace, for Jesus' sake, will forgive you all your sins? Then declare so by saying: **I do believe.**

Truly, you should so believe, for Holy Scripture declares: "For 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."

4. Do you promise that, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, you will from this time on amend your sinful life? Then declare so by saying: **I do promise.**

Truly, you should so promise, for Christ, the Lord, says: "In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matt 5:16).

5. Finally, do you believe that through me, a called servant of God, you will receive the forgiveness of all your sins? Then declare so by saying: **I do believe.**

Truly, you should so believe, as the Scripture tells us, "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." (Matthew 16:19).

**M** May it be to you as you believe.

## **ABSOLUTION**

**M** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the place and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*Stand*

## SANCTUS



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -  
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -  
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## 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: A - - men.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

315 – Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face



1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;  
2 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;  
3 I have no help but yours nor do I need  
4 Mine is the sin but yours the right - eous - ness;  
5 Too soon we rise; the ves - sels dis - ap - pear.



Here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen,  
Here is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread a - new,  
An - oth - er arm but yours to lean up - on,  
Mine is the guilt but yours the cleans - ing blood,  
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone.



Here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,  
Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long  
It is e - nough, O Lord, e - nough in - deed;  
Here is my robe, my ref - uge, and my peace;  
The bread and wine re - move, but you are here,



And all my wea - ri - ness up - on you lean.  
The brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with you.  
My strength is in your might, your might a - lone.  
Your blood, your right - eous - ness, O Lord, my God.  
Near - er than ev - er, still my shield and sun.

6 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,  
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,  
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,  
The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89, abr., alt.  
Tune: FARLEY CASTLE (10 10 10 10) Henry Lawes, 1595-1662.

Stand

## THE BENEDICTION

**M** To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore!



C: A - men. A - men. A - - men.

## CLOSING CANTICLE

Song of Simeon



C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part



ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen



your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry



peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles



and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

## READING

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (spoken responsively)

**M** There is a time for everything,  
**C** **and a season for every activity under heaven**

**M** a time to be born and a time to die,  
**C** **a time to plant and a time to uproot,**

**M** a time to kill and a time to heal,  
**C** **a time to tear down and a time to build,**

**M** a time to weep and a time to laugh,  
**C** **a time to mourn and a time to dance,**

**M** a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,  
**C** **a time to embrace and a time to refrain,**

**M** a time to search and a time to give up,  
**C** **a time to keep and a time to throw away,**

**M** a time to tear and a time to mend,  
**C** **a time to be silent and a time to speak,**

**M** a time to love and a time to hate,  
**C** **a time for war and a time for peace.**

*Silence for meditation*

## POSTLUDE

*After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.*