



Grace

630 N. Monroe St.
Monroe, MI 48162
(734) 242-1401
www.gracelutheranmonroe.org



*We are more than conquerors
through him who loved us.*

Romans 8:37

*Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are brothers and sisters in Christ who are about
“Proclaiming God’s grace through faith and love.”*

*If you are a visitor, please make yourself at home and don’t hesitate to ask a question. There will be the celebration of Holy Communion tonight. If you are not a member of Grace and desire to commune, please speak with the pastor **before the service**. If you are physically unable to commune at the altar, the pastor would be happy to serve you in your pew. Please, notify an usher before the service begins.*

You can follow the whole service here in this folder as well as on the displays. Some parts of the service will be found in the burgundy “Lutheran Service Book” hymnals in the pew back.

NEW YEAR’S EVE

December 31, 2021

Tonight in Worship

- Merry Christmas! Today is the 7th of the 12 days of Christmas and it always seems appropriate to continue the rejoicing season of Christmas.
- As we prepare to ring in a new year we do so tonight with the full blessings of our gracious Lord and savior. We continue our tradition of using the service of corporate confession and individual absolution. You’ll get the chance individually to hear the Lord’s words of forgiveness spoken to you tonight.
- May you be able to proclaim God’s grace through faith and love in the year to come!

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #896

“Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year”

1. Now greet the swiftly changing year With joy and penitence sincere.
Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace Another year of grace.
2. Remember now the Son of God And how He shed His infant blood.
Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace Another year of grace.

3. This Jesus came to end sin's war; This Name of names for us He bore.
Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace Another year of grace.

4. His love abundant far exceeds The volume of a whole year's needs.
Rejoice! Rejoice! With thanks embrace Another year of grace.

5. With Him as Lord to lead our way In want an in prosperity,
What need we fear in earth or space In this new year of grace!

Service of Corporate Confession and Individual Absolution

Lutheran Service Book, pages 290-291

Stand

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P I will go to the altar of God,

C to God my exceeding joy. *Psalm 43:4*

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth. *Psalm 124:8*

Sit

The Pastor reads the Confessional Address (LSB pp. 290-291)

At the Conclusion of the Address, the Pastor reads

P May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

C Amen.

P Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins to Him, imploring Him for the sake of His Son Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

C Amen.

P Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

C Yes.

P Let it be done for you as you believe.

At this time you are invited to approach the altar. This is purely optional. Those approaching should form a single line in the center aisle. The Pastor will stand on the first step and each person is invited to approach and simply bow their head before the Pastor and he will speak the words of absolution over your head in the stead of Jesus himself. If you would like Pastor to speak these words to you at your pew, please let an Usher know.

The service continues:

P Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ☩ peace.

C Amen. *1 Thessalonians 5:23-24*

Psalm

Psalm 90:1-4

*Congregational responses **sung** to the tune ST. ANNE, LSB #733*

P LORD, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

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

P Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.

C ***Before the hills in order stood
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.***

P You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"

C *Thy word commands our flesh to dust:*

"Return, ye sons of men!"

All nations rose from earth at first

And turn to earth again.

P For a thousand years in Your sight are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as a watch in the night.

C *A thousand ages in Thy sight*

Are like an evening gone,

Short as the watch that ends the night

Before the rising sun.

C **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

Collect of the Day

P 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.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 30:8-17

"Return to Me and you shall be saved; trust shall be your strength"

L The Old Testament Reading for New Year's Eve is from Isaiah, chapter 30.

And now, go, write it before them on a tablet and inscribe it in a book, that it may be for the time to come as a witness forever.

⁹ For they are a rebellious people, lying children, children unwilling to hear the instruction of the LORD;

¹⁰ who say to the seers, "Do not see," and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us what is right; speak to us smooth things, prophesy illusions, ¹¹ leave the way, turn aside from the path, let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel."

¹² Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel, “Because you despise this word and trust in oppression and perverseness and rely on them,
¹³ therefore this iniquity shall be to you like a breach in a high wall, bulging out, and about to collapse, whose breaking comes suddenly, in an instant;
¹⁴ and its breaking is like that of a potter's vessel that is smashed so ruthlessly that among its fragments not a shard is found with which to take fire from the hearth,
or to dip up water out of the cistern.” ¹⁵ For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.” But you were unwilling, ¹⁶ and you said, “No! We will flee upon horses”;
therefore you shall flee away; and, “We will ride upon swift steeds”;
therefore your pursuers shall be swift.
¹⁷ A thousand shall flee at the threat of one;
at the threat of five you shall flee, till you are left like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain, like a signal on a hill.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

Romans 8:31b-39

“We are more than conquerors, no matter what opposition may arise.”

L The Epistle Reading is from Romans, chapter eight.

If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

P Rejoice! Rejoice!

C **with thanks embrace another year of grace!**

Holy Gospel

Luke 12:35-40

“Jesus exhorts vigilance every day.”

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 12th chapter.

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

“Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, ³⁶ and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants!

³⁹ But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Confession of Faith

The Creed – 3rd Article + Meaning

C **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.**

P What does this mean?

C I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

Hymn of the Day

Lutheran Service Book #384

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

1. Of the Father’s love begotten Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.

2. Oh, that birth forever blessed, When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost, conceiving, Bore the Savior of our race,
And the babe, the world’s Redeemer, First revealed His sacred face
Evermore and evermore.

3. This is He whom seers in old time Chanted of with praises sing.
Whom the voices of the prophets Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the long-expected; Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.

4. O ye heights of heav’n, adore Him; Angel hosts, His praises sing.
Pow’rs, dominions, bow before Him And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent, Ev’ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.

5. Christ, to Thee, with God the Father, And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving And unending praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion, And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore. Amen.

Sermon

Offering

“For where your treasures is, there will be your heart also.”

– Matthew 6:21

We encourage you to place your offering in the dropbox in the narthex before service. When the usher brings the offering forward at this time you may also hold it up and place it in the plate as the usher walks by. Please also use this time for prayer and reflection upon what we have heard from the Lord’s Word this morning.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

P O God, our help in ages past, we give You thanks and praise for all Your mercies with which You have blessed us through this past year of 2021 and all years previous. We recall with thanksgiving family members and other people through whom You have guided and instructed us. Make us to be blessings to those You have given us to care for and love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O God, our hope for years to come, guide Your holy Church to proclaim Your saving name faithfully in all the nations of the earth. Enable pastors and other workers to proclaim and administer Your Gospel that many may bless Your name with thankful hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O God, under the shadow of Your throne Your saints have dwelt secure. Guard and bless all who suffer illness or adversity in this world (especially _____) and grant healing and wholeness according to Your gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O God, be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home. Dwell with us even as we dwell in Your Son’s body and blood and live and hope in the constant forgiveness of our sins. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

*Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, **any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.***

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.



P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

Words of Our Lord

Lutheran Service Book p. 209

Pax Domini *"The Peace of Our Lord"*

Lutheran Service Book p. 209

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei *"Lamb of God"*

Lutheran Service Book p. 210

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Distribution Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #899

“Across the Sky the Shades of Night”

1. Across the sky the shades of night This New Year’s Eve are fleeting.
We deck Your altar, Lord, with light, In solemn worship meeting;
And as the year’s last hours go by, We raise to You our earnest cry,
Once more Your love entreating.
2. Before the cross subdued we bow, To You our prayer addressing,
Recounting all Your mercies now, And all our sins confessing;
Beseeching You this coming year To keep us in Your faith and fear
And crown us with Your blessing.
3. We gather up in this brief hour The mem’ry of Your mercies:
Your wondrous goodness, love, and pow’r Our grateful song rehearses;
For You have been our strength and stay In many a dark and dreary day
Of sorrow and reverses.
4. We now remember, as we pray, Our dear ones in Your caring
Who brightly shine in endless day, Past death and all despairing.
At our life’s end, Lord, as Your own, Bring us with them around Your throne,
The joys of heaven sharing.

Distribution Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #900

“Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love”

1. Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Name all other names above,
Unto which must ev’ry knee Bow in deep humility.
2. Jesus! Name decreed of old, To the maiden mother told,
Kneeling in her lowly cell, By the angel Gabriel.

3. Jesus! Name of priceless worth To the fallen of the earth
For the promise that it gave, "Jesus shall His people save."

4. Jesus! Name of mercy mild, Given to the holy Child
When the cup of human woe First He tasted here below.

5. Jesus! Only name that's giv'n Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved Burst their fetters and are saved.

6. Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee Helpless, O our God, to thee.

Nunc Dimittis *"Song of Simeon"*

Lutheran Service Book p. 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Luther's Evening Prayer, adapted for New Year's

P Let us pray.

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this year; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me in this new year. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Benediction

Psalm 124:8; 90:12

P Our help is in the name of the LORD,

C who made heaven and earth.

P So teach us to number our days

C that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

P 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.

C Amen.

Greeting of Peace

Following the Benediction, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Closing Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #392
"God Loves Me Dearly"

1. God loves me dearly, Grants me salvation,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me. refrain

Refrain

Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

2. I was in slav'ry, Sin, death, and darkness;
God's love was working To make me free. refrain

3. He sent forth Jesus, My dear Redeemer,
He sent forth Jesus And set me free. refrain

4. Jesus, my Savior, Himself did offer;
Jesus, my Savior, Paid all I owed. refrain

5. Now I will praise You, O Love Eternal;
Now I will praise You All my life long. refrain

*Want to write some notes down?
This page is free for you.*