



12145 W. EDGERTON AVE. | HALES CORNERS, WI 53130 | 414-427-9337
<http://www.messiahhalescorners.com> † [Email: LBernthal@MessiahHC.org](mailto:LBernthal@MessiahHC.org)

Luke Bernthal, Pastor
Paul Tiefel, Principal
Levi Schaller, Teacher
Carrie Reim, Teacher

Phone: 402-389-2147
Phone: 715-869-3733
Phone: 715-529-4368
Phone: 715-529-4030

December 31, 2024

New Year's Eve

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

– Psalm 90:1



We Welcome Our Visitors who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.
We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.
If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor.

✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 90 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: *“Now the Year Has Gone Away”* (adapted from hymn 653 TLH)

♪ *Now the year has gone away;
Father listen while I pray,
Asking Thee in this New Year,
Oh, please watch and keep me near.*

*Jesus, Savior, wash away
All my sins. O Lord, I pray,
Help me every day to be
Good and gentle, more like Thee.*

*Let my near and dear ones be
Always near and dear to Thee.
Oh, bring me and all I love
To Thy happy home above.*

*Now my evening praise I give;
Thou didst die that I might live.
All my blessings come from Thee;
Oh, how good Thou art to me!*

*Thou, my best and kindest Friend,
Thou wilt love me to the end.
Let me love Thee more and more,
Always better than before.*

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Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

- P** In the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

- P** God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.
- C** **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:5, 7-9)
- P** Let us pray...
- C** **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer:**
We confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.
- P** Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the joy and peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord...

TLH 116 v. 1

**♪ To the name of our salvation Laud and honor let us pay,
Which for many a generation Hid in God's foreknowledge lay;
But with holy exultation We may sing aloud today.**

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, from whom comes down every good and perfect gift, we give You thanks for all Your blessings, both earthly and spiritual, that You have given us in the past year, and we pray that in Your goodness You would give us a blessed and joyful year to come. Defend us from all dangers and adversities, and give us the fullness of Your grace. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

First Reading

Psalm 90 (selected verses - RESPONSIVE - NKJV)

P LORD, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever You had formed the earth and the world,

C **Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.**

P You turn man to destruction, And say,

C **"Return, O children of men."**

P For a thousand years in Your sight Are like yesterday when it is past,

C **And like a watch in the night.**

P The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years,

C **Yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.**

P Who knows the power of Your anger?

C **For as the fear of You, so is Your wrath.**

P So teach us to number our days,

C **That we may gain a heart of wisdom.**

P Return, O LORD! How long?

C **And have compassion on Your servants.**

P Oh, satisfy us early with Your mercy,

C **That we may rejoice and be glad all our days!**

P Let Your work appear to Your servants,

C **And Your glory to their children.**

P And let the beauty of the LORD our God be upon us,

C **And establish the work of our hands for us;**

Yes, establish the work of our hands.

Second Reading

Lamentations 3:21-26 (EHV)

P The second reading is from Lamentations 3:21-26.

C **Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!**

²¹ Nevertheless, I keep this in my heart. This is the reason I have hope:

²² By the mercies of the LORD we are not consumed, for his compassions do not fail.

²³ They are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness.


²⁴ My soul says, "The LORD is my portion. Therefore, I will hope in him."

²⁵ The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.

²⁶ It is good to hope quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

P Here ends our Scripture readings.

TLH 116 v. 5-6

 ***Jesus is the name prevailing Over every name by right;
At this name, in terror quailing, Powers of hell are put to flight;
God, in mercy never failing, Saves us by this name of might.***

***Therefore we in love adoring This most blessed name revere,
Holy Jesus, Thee imploring So to write it in us here
That hereafter, heavenward soaring, We may sing with angels there.***

Apostles' Creed *We boldly confess what we believe.*

W.S. p. 15

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 sits 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.**

Hymn of the Day: 899 *Across the Sky the Shades of Night*

LSB 899

Sermon Text: 2 Corinthians 5:1-9 (NKJV)

For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ² For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, ³ if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. ⁴ For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. ⁵ Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. ⁶ So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. ⁷ For we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸ We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. ⁹ Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

Sermon Theme: Our Confidence in the New Year

- ✝ What makes New Year's Eve such a unique day?

- ✝ Why can we look back on the past year (and the past in general) with confidence? **(see Psalm 90:1-2)**

- ✝ Why can we look forward into the New Year—and beyond—with confidence? **(v. 6-8)**

Offertory

LSB 956



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

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Sermon Hymn: 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

LSB 733

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Prayer of the Church *We bring our prayers to God.*

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.**

Choir Song: "All Glory Be to Christ"

Should nothing of our efforts stand, no legacy survive,
Unless the Lord does raise the house, in vain its builders strive.
To you who boast tomorrow's gain, tell me what is your life?
A mist that vanishes at dawn. All glory be to Christ!

Chorus:

All glory be to Christ our King! All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing, all glory be to Christ!

His will be done, His kingdom come, on earth as is above,
Who is Himself our daily bread. Praise Him, the Lord of love!
Let living water satisfy the thirsty without price.
We'll take a cup of kindness yet, all glory be to Christ!

When, on that day, the Great I AM, the faithful and the true,
The Lamb, who was for sinners slain, is making all things new,
Behold, our God still lives with us and is our steadfast light
And we shall e'er His people be. All glory be to Christ!

Service of the Sacrament

*Now we approach the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in which Jesus comes to bless us with His very body and blood.
We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration.*

The Words of Institution

The words spoken by Jesus the night He instituted the Lord's Supper, by which our Lord assured to His Church the real presence of His body and blood in the Sacrament.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C Amen.

Prayer Before the Lord's Supper

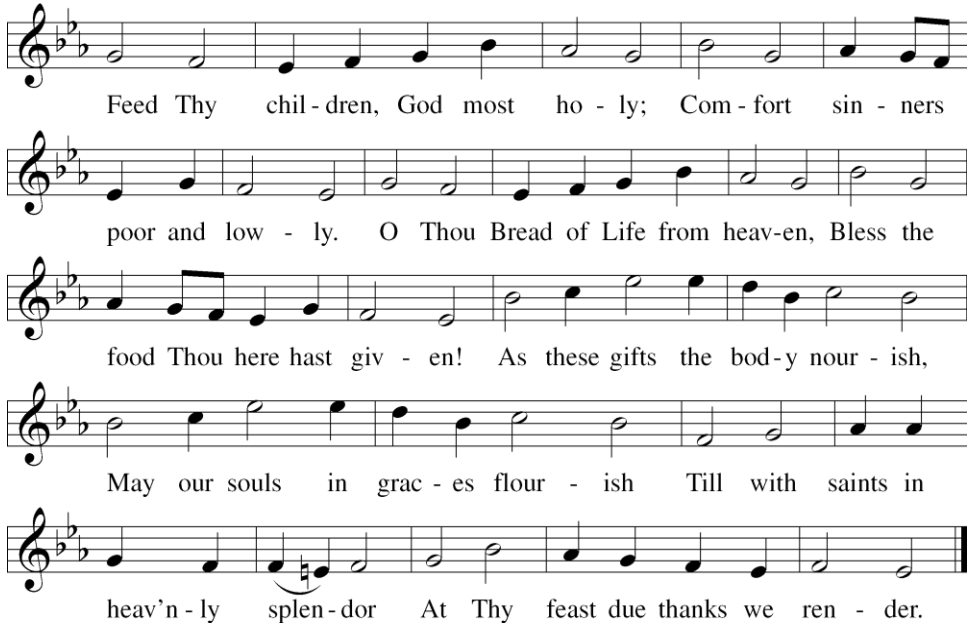
Adapted from The Lutheran Hymnal, p. 4

C Dear Savior, upon Your gracious invitation I come to Your altar.
Let me find favor in Your eyes that I may approach Your table in true faith
and receive the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of my sins and the
strengthening of my faith. Amen

Hymn of Preparation

“Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy”

LSB 774



Feed Thy chil-dren, God most ho-ly; Com-fort sin-ners
poor and low-ly. O Thou Bread of Life from heav-en, Bless the
food Thou here hast giv-en! As these gifts the bod-y nour-ish,
May our souls in grac-es flour-ish Till with saints in
heav'n-ly splen-dor At Thy feast due thanks we ren-der.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
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The Distribution

Note to our Guests: We are so glad you are worshiping with us today. The Word of God treats the Lord's Supper with great care. The Word of God considers the Lord's Supper to be a wonderful Means of Grace – a way in which Christ forgives and blesses. It is also considered an opportunity for congregations to express unity and oneness (1 Corinthians 10:16-17) – that is, to say to the world "This is what we believe!" But God's Word also warns against taking the Sacrament to our judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). For these reasons our congregation asks that you fully understand our teachings before partaking. We respectfully ask that those who have joined this congregation through public confession of faith, or who are members of another congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) approach the altar at the usher's direction. Speak to our pastor anytime and he will be glad to provide the information you would need – and want. We look forward to communing together, Lord willing, in the future.

Communion Hymns: 624 LSB; 632 LSB

Prayer After the Lord's Supper

Adapted from *The Lutheran Hymnal*, p. 4

G O blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to me in this holy Sacrament, keep me in Your faith and favor. As You live in me, let me also live in You. May Your body and blood preserve me in the true faith unto everlasting life! Amen.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness!

The Thanksgiving

“My Heart Has Now Become Thy Dwelling”

LSB 619 v. 5

5 My heart has now be - come Thy dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy
prais - es tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.

Refrain
Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

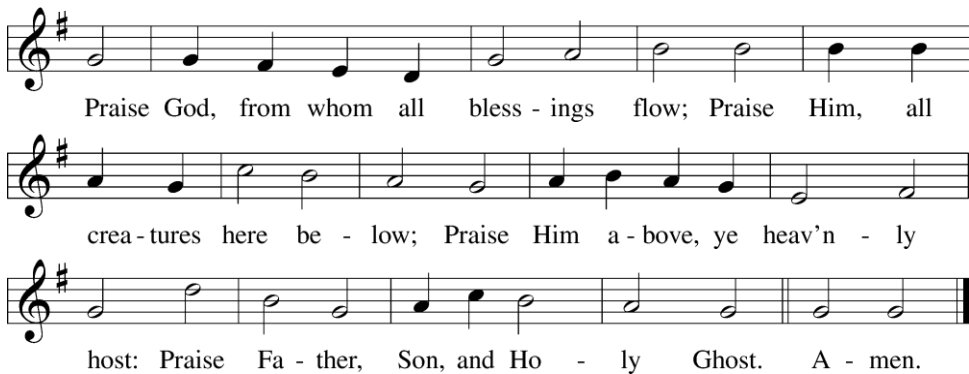
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Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

The Doxology

LSB 805



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

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Closing Hymn: *Abide With Me!* (LSB 878 v. 1, 4, 2, 5-6)

(hymn verses interspersed with Scripture readings)

- P** "Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God.
- C** **I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand"** (Isaiah 41:10)
- J** ***Abide with me; fast falls the eventide. The darkness deepens;
Lord, with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!***
- P** "For I am the LORD, I do not change; Therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob." (Malachi 3:6)
- C** **"If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself."** (2 Timothy 2:13)
- J** ***Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim;
its glories pass away. Change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me!***
- P** The LORD is your keeper; The LORD is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day, Nor the moon by night.
- C** **The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; He shall preserve your soul.
The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in From this time forth,
and even forevermore.** (Psalm 121:5-8)

♪ *I need thy presence ev'ry passing hour.
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, oh, abide with me!*

Ⓟ The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?

Ⓢ **The LORD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation.**
(Psalm 118:6, 14)

Ⓟ "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"
The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.

Ⓢ **But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**
(1 Cor. 15:55-57)

(please stand for last two verses)

♪ *I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight and tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting?
Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still if thou abide with me.*

*Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies. Heav'n's morning breaks,
and earth's vain shadows flee; In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!*

Announcements



Welcome! We welcome all our visitors this morning.
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

Today: **New Year's Eve Worship w/ Communion – 6:30pm**

12/31/24

Wednesday – *New Year's Day*

Church Cleaning: Team #8 (12/28-1/3/25); Team #9 (1/4-1/10)

This Sunday: **Choir – 8am**

1/5/25 **Worship w/ Communion – 9am**

Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am