



**WELCOME TO
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

2415 Silas Creek Parkway
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
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**NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP with Holy Communion
December 31, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.**

***St. John's Mission: To help one more person get to Heaven
by pointing them to Jesus Christ.***

Welcome & Sharing of the Peace

(Please Stand)

Processional Hymn #901 "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

Opening Sentences

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Lord, You have been our dwelling place

C: **in all generations.**

P: So teach us to number our days

C: **that we may get a heart of wisdom**

P: Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,

C: **and establish the work of our hands upon us;**

All: **yes, establish the work of our hands!**

Confession and Absolution

C: **Lord, we come before You in prayer today, asking for forgiveness. We have not loved as we ought to love; we have not given as we ought to give; and we have fallen short of the mark of truly being Your obedient sons and daughters. We recognize our sin, and in this moment of silence, we privately confess our shortcomings in love and life.**

(Silence for reflection)

P: God, our heavenly Father, hears the prayers of His children and answers them. Our prayer for forgiveness is answered because of Jesus Christ, His Son, who died for us that we might have new life in Him. The separation between God and us has been bridged by God's love in the sacrifice of His Son. To those who believe His word of promise, He gives the privilege to be the people of God. Praise for His gift of love to us!

Introit *Psalm 98:1-3; antiphon: Psalm 124:8*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

C: Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

P: His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.

C: The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

P: He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

C: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

All: 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. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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.

(Be Seated)

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 31:1-5, 9-10, 14-17, 23-24

In You, O LORD, I put my trust;
Let me never be ashamed;
Deliver me in Your righteousness.

² Bow down Your ear to me,

Deliver me speedily;

Be my rock of refuge,

A fortress of defense to save me.

³ For You *are* my rock and my fortress;

Therefore, for Your name's sake,

Lead me and guide me.

⁴ Pull me out of the net which they have secretly laid for me,

For You *are* my strength.

⁵ Into Your hand I commit my spirit;
You have redeemed me, O LORD God of truth.

⁹ Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble;
My eye wastes away with grief,
Yes, my soul and my body!

¹⁰ For my life is spent with grief,
And my years with sighing;
My strength fails because of my iniquity,
And my bones waste away.

¹⁴ But as for me, I trust in You, O Lord;
I say, "You *are* my God."

¹⁵ My times *are* in Your hand;
Deliver me from the hand of my enemies,
And from those who persecute me.

¹⁶ Make Your face shine upon Your servant;
Save me for Your mercies' sake.

¹⁷ Do not let me be ashamed, O Lord, for I have called upon You;
Let the wicked be ashamed;
Let them be silent in the grave.

²³ Oh, love the Lord, all you His saints!
For the Lord preserves the faithful,
And fully repays the proud person.

²⁴ Be of good courage,
And He shall strengthen your heart,
All you who hope in the Lord.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *Psalm 90:12-14*

All: **Teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Satisfy us in the morning with Your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

Epistle Lesson Romans 13:8-14

⁸ Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not bear false witness,” [a] “You shall not covet,” [b] and if *there is* any other commandment, are *all* summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” [c] ¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love *is* the fulfillment of the law.

¹¹ And *do* this, knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation *is* nearer than when we *first* believed. ¹² The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to *fulfill its* lusts.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

Holy Gospel

Luke 12:35-40

(Be ready for the coming of the Son of Man.)

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁵[Jesus said:] “Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning,

³⁶and 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.

³⁷Blessed 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. ³⁸If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! ³⁹But 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. ⁴⁰You 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 to You, O Christ.**

(Be Seated)

Hymn of the Day #733 “O God Our Help in Ages Past”

Sermon “What Time is it?”

(Please stand.)

Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

(Be seated.)

Offering

Offertory Anthem "Alone to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ"

Reginald Unterseher

TONIGHT WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER...

St. Paul wrote, "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup". Ask yourself: Am I sorry for my sins? Do I believe that Jesus died for my sins? Am I resolved, by the work of the Holy Spirit, to use the power of Christ which is offered in this Sacrament, to amend my sinful life? St. Paul also wrote, "He who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly". Do you believe that you receive the TRUE/REAL BODY AND BLOOD of Christ in, under and with the bread and wine for the full pardon of sins? (Please use pages 329-330 in the front of your hymn book to examine yourself.) Children are invited forward to receive a blessing.

† Sacrament †

(Please stand.)

Preface

P: The Lord be with you.



C And al - so 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.

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en 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 who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

C: Amen.

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

Peace of the Lord

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



C A - men.

Agnus Dei



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Be seated.)

Distribution Hymns: Hymns TBD

(Please stand.)

Post-Communion Canticle – *Thank the Lord*



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P: Let us pray. We thank You, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept us this year; and we pray that You would forgive us all our sins where we have done wrong, and graciously keep us in this new year. For into Your hands we commend oursevles, our bodies and souls and all things. Let Your holy angel be with us, that the evil foe may have no power over us.

C: Amen.

Benediction

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.

Recessional Hymn #895 “Now Thank We All Our God”

Dismissal

P: Go in peace and serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude “Now Thank We All Our God”

Georg Friedrich Kauffmann

Worship Assistants: Steve Anderson, Bob Burke

Lector: Kris Gartley

Poinsettias may be picked up at any time.



Our Sunday Worship - Services are at 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
*Holy Communion is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. on the first and third Sundays,
at 10:45 a.m. on the second and fourth Sundays, and at both services
if there is a fifth Sunday in the month.
Sunday School and Adult Bible Class both begin at 9:45 a.m.*

This schedule will resume on January 8. Tomorrow's worship service is at 10:30 a.m.
with Holy Communion.

Michael Zeoli, Director of Music for Contemporary Worship
Frances Burmeister, Director of Music for Traditional Worship