## New Year’s Day

## ~ January 1, 2023 ~ Faith & First

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

P: What a year this has been!  
***C: So many things have happened. Some of them have been wonderful; others very sad.***

P: In all of this our Lord has been with us, guiding, healing, comforting, and rejoicing.  
***C: Thanks be to God for God's continual presence with us.***

P: Now we are on the threshold to a new tomorrow.  
***C: We don't know what it will hold for us.***

P: In all of what is to come, our Lord will be with us.  
***C: Guiding, healing, comforting, and rejoicing with us. Thank you, Lord, for your steadfast love and presence. Amen.***

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Lord, you have asked us to feed and give drink to those who hunger, to clothe those who are naked, to welcome the stranger, to visit those who are sick and imprisoned. When we look back on this year we might be able to say we did some of those things. We remember the enthusiasm with which we started out this waning year, ready to do your work and witness to your love. But you know how things got in our way. We allowed ourselves to be swallowed up by worries and fear. We placed comfort of self before service to others. We took the "easy way out" whenever we could. And you wept for us. Now we are on the brink of the new year. We cannot change what we did not do, but we can make a covenant with you to be your witnesses in our words, thoughts and deeds to your people so that when you say, "Have you given food and drink to those who hunger and thirst, have you clothed the naked, welcomed the stranger, visited the sick and imprisoned?" We can respond with a joyful "Yes! Lord, we have done these things with joy and love!" Forgive us what we have not done. Inspire us to do what you would have us do. In Jesus' Name, we pray.

***C: Amen.***

**Peace**

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

***C: And also with you.***

**Gathering Hymn *“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”*** WOV #660 ELW #325

Vs. 1 I want Jesus to walk with me;  
 I want Jesus to walk with me;  
 all along my pilgrim journey,  
 Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Vs. 2 In my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
 in my trials, Lord, walk with me;  
 when my heart is almost breaking,  
 Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

Vs. 3 When I’m in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
 when I’m in trouble, Lord, walk with me;  
 when my head is bowed in sorrow,  
 Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

**Greeting** LBW pg. 57 ELW pg. 138

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

***C: And also with you.***

**Kyrie** LBW pg. 58 ELW pg. 138

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

***C: Amen.***

**Hymn of Praise** LBW pg. 58ELWPg 138

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**Prayer of the Day**

Lord of the opening way, we bring to you this night our past, with all that has happened in our lives, our hopes and our dreams, our successes and our failures, our gains and our losses. We bring to you our present, lives filled with exhaustion, wonder, fear, concern. We come to you with hearts open to receive your word for us, for the future. We want to be part of your new heaven and earth, to serve you by serving others. Speak to us, heal us, teach us, lead us, for we ask these things in Jesus' Name.

***C: Amen.***

**First Reading: Numbers 6:22-27**

22 The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 23Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them, 24 The Lord bless you and keep you;  
25 the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; 26 the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. 27 So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

**Psalm 8**

1O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth –

**2you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the for and avenger.**

3When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses.

**4what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them? How majestic is your name in all the earth!**

5You have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

**6You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet;**

7all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,

**8the bird of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

9O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**How majestic is your name in all the earth!**

**Second Lesson: Galatians 4:4-7**

4But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. 6And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, ‘Abba! Father!’ 7So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

**Gospel:** **Luke 2:15-21**

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ 16So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

21 After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day *“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”***  LBW #343 ELW #618

Vs. 1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this

barren land. I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me

with your pow'rful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
 feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore.

Vs. 2 Open now the crystal fountain where the healing

waters flow; let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me

all my journey through. Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,  
 shield me with your mighty arm, shield me with your mighty arm.

Vs. 3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious

fears subside; death of death and hell's destruction, land me

safe on Canaan's side. Songs and praises, songs and praises  
 I will raise forevermore, I will raise forevermore.

**Apostles’ Creed** LBW pg. 65ELW pg. 105

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

**Prayers of the People**

**P: It is dark. We cannot see very far.  
*C: Do not fear. God alone can see what lies ahead.***

**P: We have suffered much, loved much, lost much.**

***C: Do not fear. God knows your hearts and fears.***

**P: We have dreamed and watched as dreams have floated away, unfulfilled.  
*C: Do not fear. God is with you.***

P Do not let fear and darkness overcome you. God has given the Light for your path.  
***C: The silence sometimes overwhelms us. The past still shouts loudly at us.***

P: Give your hearts and spirits to the Lord!  
***C: Lord, we give our hearts and spirits to you this day.***

P: Let go of your fears. Place your trust in the Lord.

***C: Lord, we give our fears to you. Heal us, Lord.***

**Offering**

**Offering Prayer**

Let us pray, God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus, Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**Great Thanksgiving** LBW pg. 68ELW pg. 145

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 our thanks and praise.***

**Words of Institution**

P: 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.

***C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

**Lord’s Prayer** LBW pg. 71ELW pg. 145

P: Let us pray as Jesus has taught us.

***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.***

**Communion**

**Post Communion Blessing**

**Prayer after Communion**

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. ***Amen.***

**Benediction**

Go from this place; not into darkness, although it is night! Go into the Light of God's eternal, inspiring Love. Go to be those who bring peace, love, hope and joy. And God will always be with you.

***C: Amen.***

**Sending Hymn *“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice***” LBW #55 ELW #288

Vs. 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
 give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
 ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.  
 Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Vs. 2 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
 now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!  
 He has opened heaven’s door, and we are blest forevermore.  
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Vs. 3 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
 now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!  
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.  
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

**Dismissal**

L: Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

***C: We Will, Thanks be to God!***

***TURN YOUR MIC OFF!!***

**Postlude**