New Year's Eve

December 31, 2025



The Lord's Redeemed Remember



198 Westridge Avenue, Burlington, Wisconsin 262-763-8229 | stjohnsburlington.org Pastor Kirk Lahmann | Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord! Please fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in an offering plate, located near the sanctuary doors, as you leave worship. If you are a guest, know that we are thankful you have joined us and hope that you will join us again soon.

Prepare for Worship

To prepare for worship, read through the service focus and the Scripture readings. Ponder the words of the Psalm of the Day. Spend time in prayer, using the prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal or on pages 255-258. For those intending to receive the Lord's Supper, read through the "Christian Questions" on pages 295-296. Consider reading through portions of the Small Catechism on pages 286-293.

Today's Focus for Worship - The Lord's Redeemed Remember

As one year ends and another begins, we naturally pause and reflect on life. We ponder the changes of the last year, the changes of the last decade, and even the changes over the course of our lives. What a comfort it is to know that we have a God who never changes! And just as he himself does not change, so his word and promises do not change. As we end one year and enter another, we, the Lord's redeemed, remember the Lord's promise, "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more" (Isa 43:25).

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Accompanist: Cindy Klink

Acknowledgments

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The Service

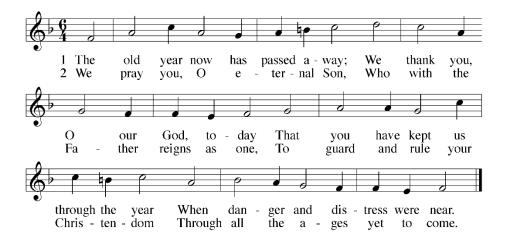
The Lord's Redeemed Remember



Opening Hymn

The Old Year Now Has Passed Away | 71:1-2 (CW 1993)

Please stand to sing the hymn.



Invocation

Matthew 18:20; 28:19-20

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Responsory Psalm 90

Lord, you have been our dwelling place **throughout all generations.**

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, **from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

You turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals."

A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by.

You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures;

yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.

Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

Confession and Absolution

1 John 1:8-9

Holy and merciful Father,

As I remember and review my life throughout the year now ending, I confess that I have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have hurt the people around me in my life and have dishonored you with my wickedness. I plead for your mercy and rely on your love.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I pronounce you forgiven in the sight of God the Father, the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit, who declares, "I remember your sins no more!"

Hymn Response

- 3. Take not your saving Word away, which lights and cheers our souls each day. Abide with us and keep us free from error and hypocrisy.
- 4. Oh, help us to forsake all sin, a new and holier life begin! Forgive the old year's sins, and bless the new year with true happiness,
- 5. Wherein as Christians we may live or die in peace that you can give, To rise again when you will come and enter your eternal home.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, before whom all generations rise and fall, teach us to think earnestly on the brevity of our lives and the immensity of your goodness. Help us to enter the new year trusting in the name of your Son and walking in the way of his peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Hymn Response

The Old Year Now Has Passed Away | st. 6

6. There shall we thank you and adore with all the angels evermore.

Lord Jesus Christ, increase our faith to praise your name through life and death.

Be seated

The Lord's Redeemed Remember Jesus' Birth

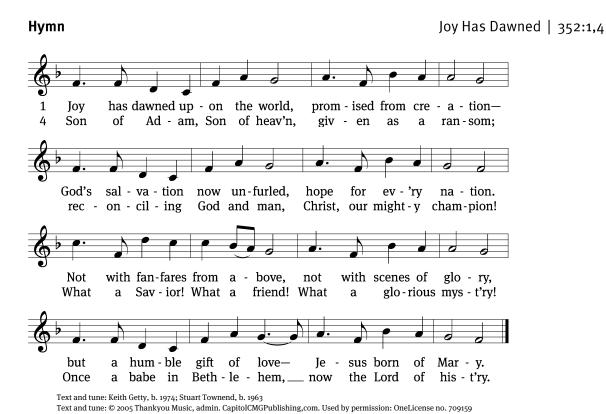
Luke 1:31-33; 2:6-7

³¹"You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

⁶While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.



Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



The Lord's Redeemed Remember Jesus' Epiphany

Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11

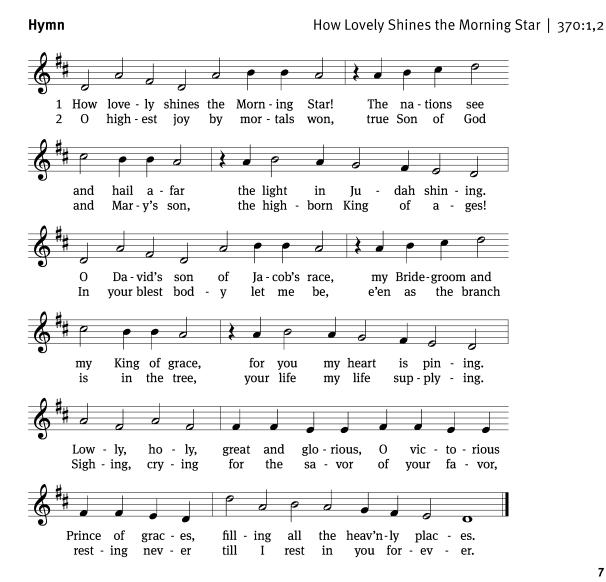
¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with



his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Lord God, by the leading of a star, you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



²A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." ³Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy.

³⁰Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; and he healed them. ³¹The people were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.



Almighty and everlasting God, look with mercy on our weaknesses, and in all our dangers and needs stretch out the right hand of your majesty to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Hymn

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service | 766:1,4

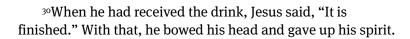
- Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need, who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed, we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart, consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift that you impart.
- 4. Sent from worship as your servants, forth in your dear name we go, to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show; hope and health, goodwill and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give, that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.

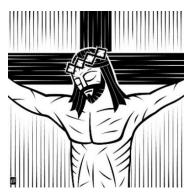
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The Lord's Redeemed Remember Jesus' Passion

Isaiah 53:4-6; John 19:30

⁴Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. ⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. ⁶We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.





Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation, that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive the forgiveness of sins, victory over the grave, and finally inherit eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn

Upon the Cross Extended | 434:1,3,4

- Upon the cross extended, see, world, your Lord suspended; your Savior yields his breath.
 The Prince of life from heaven himself has freely given to shame and blows and bitter death.
- 3. I caused your grief and sighing by evils multiplying as countless as the sands.I caused the woes unnumbered with which your soul is cumbered, your sorrows raised by wicked hands.
- 4. Your soul in griefs unbounded, your head with thorns surrounded, you died to ransom me.

The cross for me enduring, the crown for me securing, you healed my wounds and set me free.

Text: tr. John Kelly, 1833–1890, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr. Text: Public domain ⁵The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

⁸So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him.

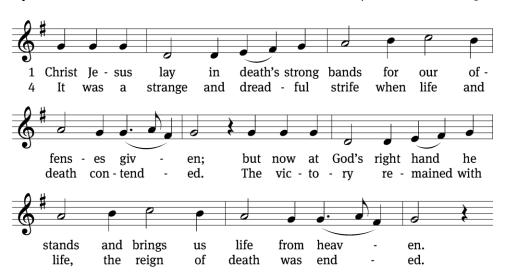


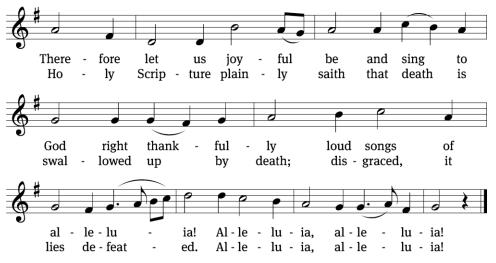
Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through Baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Hymn

Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands | 440:1,4





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The Lord's Redeemed Remember Jesus' Ascension

Acts 1:7-11

⁷He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."



Lord Jesus, King of glory, you ascended far above the heavens, and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that, at your command and by your power, we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- 1. A hymn of glory let us sing! New songs throughout the world shall ring: Alleluia, alleluia!
 - Christ, by a road before untrod, ascends unto the throne of God. Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!
- 4. "You see him now, ascending high up to the portals of the sky." Alleluia, alleluia!
 - "Hereafter Jesus you shall see returning in great majesty." Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Text: tr. composite; The Venerable Bede, 673-735, abr. Text: Public domain.

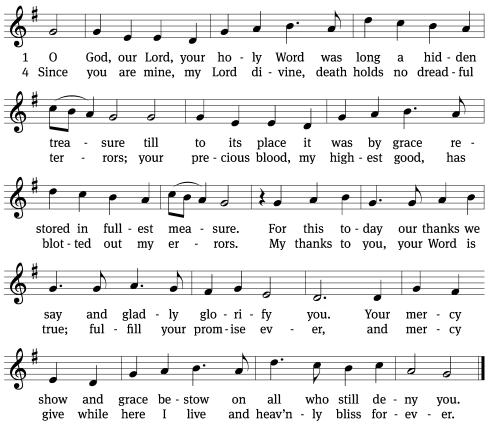
The Lord's Redeemed Remember God's Word Preached at St. John's and Our Reformation Heritage

2 Timothy 3:14-17

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.



Almighty God, through the preaching of your servants, the blessed Reformers, you caused the light of the Gospel to shine forth. Grant that we may faithfully defend it against all enemies and joyfully proclaim it to the salvation of people everywhere to the glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



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The Lord's Redeemed Remember Our Own Baptism and Those Baptized at St. John's in 2025

John 3:5-6; Titus 3:4-8

⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit."

⁴But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. ⁸This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things.

Those Baptized at St. John's in 2025

Grayson Kopecky Jett Schuler Haisley Schuler Sadie Maier Grace Fiedler Lydia Mattila Finn Mattila Declan Mattila

Otto Riggs
Isla Riggs
Jameson Fincutter
Jacklyn Goller
Nelly Gill
Caroline Johannesen
Amelia Fincutter
Wesley Miller

Charlotte Schubring McKinley McIntyre Brooks McIntyre Kayla Wise Adalyn Rodrigue Dominic Jay Britney Farmer Allister Brunke

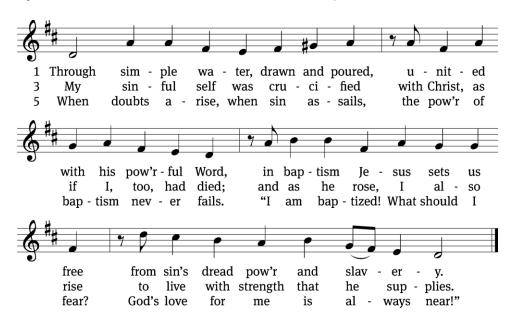


Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the gift of Baptism by which you wash away sin and give us a new and eternal life. Help us each day to remember that through Baptism you clothe us with Christ, that we may stand holy and righteous before you. Look with favor on all who have been baptized that we may be kept safe by the gift of your Spirit, grow daily in your grace, and live forever by the power of the risen Christ. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to all the baptized so that all may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Through Simple Water, Drawn and Poured | 685:1,3,5



The Lord's Redeemed Remember Our Own Confirmation and Those Confirmed at St. John's in 2025

John 15:4-8

⁴Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

Those Confirmed at St. John's in 2025

Robert Barnard
Megan Frohmader
Anastasia Kaiser
Madilynn Lahmann
Cerington Naber

Eleiana Pope Sophia Swantz Gradin Timm Kayla Wise Ashley Morgan

Ryan Mattila Lauryn Mattila Britney Farmer Cody Weber

O God, your Holy Spirit grows and governs the whole body of the church. Sanctify and keep those who dedicate themselves to your service. Renew them in body and mind that they may eagerly serve you in the unity of the faith; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.



Amen.

Hymn

Draw Us to Thee | 700:1,3,5

- 1. Draw us to thee, for then shall we walk in thy steps forever and hasten on where thou art gone to be with thee, dear Savior.
- 3. Draw us to thee; O grant that we may walk the road to heaven! Direct our way lest we should stray and from thy paths be driven.
- 5. Draw us to thee unceasingly; into thy kingdom take us. Let us fore'er thy glory share; thy saints and joint heirs make us.

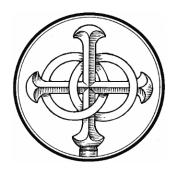
The Joy of Family, Our Own Wedding, and Those Married at St. John's in 2025

⁷Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

Those Married through St. John's in 2025

Gavin Ellerbrock and Jalyn Wood

Eternal God, source of love, help all married couples to fulfill the promises they have made to each other and to reflect your unfailing love in their love for each other. Give them kindness and patience, affection and understanding, happiness and contentment.

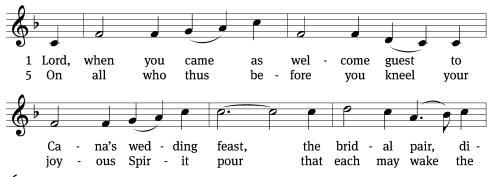


Encourage their family and friends to support them in difficult days, that their love for each other may continue to grow as long as they live. Gracious Father, in your goodness you bring people together into families and enrich their lives with abundant blessings. Renew the love of husbands and wives, parents and children, that they may strengthen and support one another on the way that leads to our heavenly home; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Hymn

Lord, When You Came as Welcome Guest | 763:1,5





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The Lord's Redeemed Remember Revelation 7:13-17 The Lord's Promise of Heaven and Those Fallen Asleep from St. John's in 2025

¹³Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?" ¹⁴I answered, "Sir, you know."

And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat down on them,' nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; 'he will lead them to springs of living water.' 'And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'"

Those Fallen Asleep from St. John's in 2025

Carol Baumeister Jane Fons Gerald Umnus Judy Condrad

Joanne Solofra

Almighty God, we praise you for the great company of saints who have finished their lives in faith and now rest from their labors. We remember especially all our loved ones, now fallen asleep, whom you have redeemed by the blood of your Son and received as your dear children through baptism. We thank you for giving them to us as companions on our earthly pilgrimage. In your compassion, comfort all who mourn their loss; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



The Lord's Redeemed Remember Our Lord's Holy Supper

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

²³For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior. Amen.

Be Seated

Holy Communion Distribution

St. John's Lutheran Church practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of St. John's, or members of a church in fellowship with St. John's, come forward for Communion. Our pastoral staff would be happy to set up a time to discuss this, and any teaching of Scripture, with you.

Distribution Hymns

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness | 663 Draw Near | 662

Stand

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

The Lord's Redeemed Joshua 24:14-18

Give Thanks and Rededicate Ourselves to Christ for the Coming Year

¹⁴"Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

¹⁶Then the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! ¹⁷It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. ¹⁸And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God."

Be seated

Offering 2 Corinthians 9:7

Offerings given in thanks to the Lord are brought to the Lord's altar. We ask all worshipers to fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in the offering plates at the sanctuary doors following the service.

Closing Prayer

It is fitting, O Lord, in the final hours of this year, to express our gratitude for the countless gifts of grace we have received from you.

You have been faithful to your promises and loving toward all you have made.

Clothing and food, safety and health, possessions and money, even life itself — all these come to us from your generous hand.

You know what we need, and you give us all good things. We thank you for these blessings, and we ask that you continue to grant them to us.

We thank you especially for your Word and Holy Supper, which strengthen our faith, shield us from temptation, and equip us for service.

Increase our commitments to these precious gifts, so that we may continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Almighty and eternal God, you have been gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and rich in love. As you led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, so lead us by the light of your Word that we may live our lives to your glory and be prepared to die in your peace.

We ask these things in the name of Jesus. In his name we began this year; in his name we bring it to a close.

Lord's Prayer Pater Noster

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

Blessing Aaronic Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

Across the Sky the Shades of Night | 367