

LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church
New Year's Eve
Candlelight Communion Service

Tuesday, December 31, 2024
6:00 PM



The Prelude:

“O Christ the Same”

Robert Lind

O Christ the same, through all our story's pages, our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears; eternal Lord, the King of all the ages, unchanging still, amid the passing years.

“If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

Helmut Walcha

“Arioso”

Raymond H. Haan

The Chiming of the Hour

*The Call to Worship:

In Christ, the God of heaven made his home on earth.

In Jesus, God entered time and is one with us.

Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.

He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.

All who hunger and thirst for righteousness—

come and be filled.

All who search for wisdom and look for hope—

come! For God is our light

and he is with us now and in the life to come.

*The Opening Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 395
“When Evening Falls and Labors Cease”

*The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

The Bible Reading: Psalm 121

The Time of Remembering:

Births in 2024

Concluded by:

We praise the Lord for the gift of new life.

Lord, you knit us together in our mother’s wombs; surely we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Deaths in 2024

Concluded by:

The grave cannot hold those who belong to Jesus.

We shall not sleep, but we shall all be changed – in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye at the last trumpet.

For the trumpet will sound and the dead shall be raised imperishable.

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 348:1,2
“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

The Prayer

The Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 348:3
“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

The Scripture: Romans 12:1-2

The Sermon: **“OUR RELATIONSHIP TO TIME”**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 440
“He Leadeth Me”

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

With joy we praise you, gracious God, for in your great love, out of nothing, you created heaven and earth and everything in them. You made us in your image and kept covenant with us—even when we fell into sin.

We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

We thank you, Jesus, for remembering us at this table—forgiving our sins, renewing our hearts, feeding our faith, and giving us abundant life now and forever.

We thank you for giving us food that endures to eternal life.

Therefore, we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name:

All Sing:

**Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name you,
though in essence only one; undivided God, we claim you,
and, adoring, bend the knee while we own the mystery.**

LUYH 540:4

The Prayer of Consecration

Lord, our God, send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and cup may be for us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we and all your saints be united with Christ and remain faithful in hope and love. Gather your whole church, O Lord, into the glory of your kingdom. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray saying:

**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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever, Amen.**

The Words of Institution

The Communion

Please come forward if you are able, as directed, to participate in Communion by intinction (dipping the bread into the cup before eating). You may respond to the elder's words with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God." Both gluten-free and regular bread are available at each station.

The Hymns During Communion:

Lift Up Your Hearts 627 "Just as I Am, Without One Plea"

Lift Up Your Hearts 168:1,3 "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

Lift Up Your Hearts 17 "Beautiful Savior"

*The Response of Praise

Praise the Lord, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

**Praise the Lord, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—**

who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,

**who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
who satisfies your desires with good things**

*The Hymn of Response: Lift Up Your Hearts 394

"All Praise to You, My God, This Night"

*The Benediction

*The People's Response: **Amen.**

*The Organ Amen

*The Silent Prayer and Carillon Bells

*The Postlude:

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Gordon Young

(The Thank-Offering is for the Benevolence Fund. Offering plates are located at the Sanctuary exits.)

Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
Chad Boorsma – liturgist
Norma de Waal Malefyt – organist

Livestreaming worship is available at lagrave.org.