



**Let them give thanks to
the LORD for His faithful
love and His wonderful
works for all humanity.
For He has satisfied the
thirsty and filled the
hungry with good things.
—Psalm 107: 8-9**

**Order of Service for New Year
January 1, 2021
RECEIVING GOD'S GRACE
WITH JOY AND THANKSGIVING**

CELEBRANT & PREACHER: Rev. Navin K. John

CALL TO WORSHIP

Presbyter: In the darkness, God's light shone and the world was born.

**All (singing): The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
His mercies never come to an end;
They are new every morning,
New every morning,
Great is your faithfulness, O Lord,
Great is your faithfulness.**

Presbyter: Streaming down through the ages, the prophets witnessed God's love and hope to the world as God continually reached out to God's creation.

All (singing): The steadfast love of the Lord...

Presbyter: In the fullness of time God's wondrous light was given to us in the form of a young child that we should come to know God's tender loving care.

All (singing): The steadfast love of the Lord...

Presbyter: Now again, in the midst of darkness, we stand, eagerly and hopefully, looking into the new world to which God calls us.

All (singing): The steadfast love of the Lord...

PRAISE & ADORATION

Presbyter: Let us give thanks for the gift of life and for the presence of the Holy One among us. Let us worship God together.

All: He is our God, we are the sheep of his pasture, the people of his care.

Presbyter: We have come to this worship in thanksgiving, celebration and hope. We have come to thank God for all His blessings in the past year and to look forward in hope

All: He is our God, we are the sheep of His pasture, the people of His care.

Presbyter: Our help is in the name of God, who made heaven and the earth, let us worship Him.

All: He is our God, we are the sheep of His pasture, the people of His care.

HYMN: O God Our Help in Ages Past

1. O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

2. Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

3. Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

4. A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

5. Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

6. O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home.

CONFESSONAL PRAYERS (all kneeling)

Presbyter: This is a true and faithful saying that Christ Jesus came into this world to save sinners. For our Lord Himself says, the Son of Man is come not to be ministered, but to minister and give life a ransom for many. Then let us approach the mercy seat of God with boldness in Jesus and pray for the forgiveness of our sins.

Presbyter: God, forgive our incompleteness: not growing in Christ, not expanding our knowledge of the Scriptures, not developing all our talents.

All: Lord in your mercy, forgive us.

Presbyter: God, forgive our disinterest, our lack of concern for and apathy to the needs around us, our blindness to hurts we could help to heal

All: Lord in your mercy, forgive us.

Presbyter: God, forgive our dishonesty, in taking the easy way rather than the right way, in speaking in one manner while living another, silencing truth to preserve tranquility, settling for less instead of the best, loving tradition more than obeying your pioneering Spirit.

All: Lord in your mercy, forgive us.

Presbyter: God, forgive our loudness, in talking when we should be listening, proclaiming when we should be studying, busying ourselves with new tasks when we should be finding a quiet place to rest.

All: Lord in your mercy, forgive us.

Presbyter: God, forgive our silence, in feeling love and failing to whisper it, reeling with joy and not shouting hallelujah, knowing the truth and forfeiting an opportunity to share it, sensing a need to share our faith and suppressing the impulse. God, please forgive us.

All: Lord in your mercy, forgive us.

Presbyter: At this moment when we come to you with broken and contrite hearts, remorseful and repentant, look down upon us in mercy, as Jesus did look with compassion on Peter when he denied his Lord, and in the same love forgive all our sins. In Jesus name, we pray.

All: Amen.

ABSOLUTION

Presbyter: We are forgiven and reconciled with God, let us be reconciled with one another. Lord have mercy upon us, and forgive us, that we may live close to you and be with you forever in eternity, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PEACE IS EXCHANGED

Presbyter: Having been forgiven and made whole through our peacemaker, let us live together in peace. God's peace challenges us and guides us towards the acts of justice, peace, and integration of the whole creation. Let us say shalom to one another and greet each other with a sign of reconciliation and peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you.

Cong: And also be with you

(The peace shared through the gesture of Namaskara)

COLLECT : God of the covenant, who, in the continuing act of grace, saves those who turn unto Him; renew us in your love, change our shame into praise and restore us into yourself; so that we may be courageous to sing your praises in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, endurance produces character and character produces hope. In the name of the God who loves us, Christ who died for us while we were still sinners and the Holy Spirit who fills our hearts with love, now and evermore. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament:		2 Samuel	6:12-15
Epistle:	:	Colossians	3:12 -17
Gospel:	:	Luke	15: 1- 7

- ¹ Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.
- ² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."
- ³ So he told them this parable:
- ⁴ "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?"
- ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing.
- ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.'
- ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

MESSAGE : Rev. Navin K. John

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, He became incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Presbyter: How very good and pleasant it is when people of God live together in unity

All: Now I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

OFFERTORY

HYMN: Standing on the promises

1. Standing on the promises of Christ my King,
Through eternal ages let His praises ring;
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,
Standing on the promises of God.

Refrain: Standing, standing,
Standing on the promises of God my Saviour;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

2. Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living Word of God I shall prevail,
Standing on the promises of God.

Refrain: Standing, standing,
Standing on the promises of God my Saviour;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

3. Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,
Bound to Him eternally by love's strong cord,
Overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,
Standing on the promises of God

Refrain: Standing, standing,
Standing on the promises of God my Saviour;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

4. Standing on the promises I cannot fall,
List'ning every moment to the Spirit's call,
Resting in my Saviour as my all in all,
Standing on the promises of God.

Refrain: Standing, standing,
Standing on the promises of God my Saviour;
Standing, standing,
I'm standing on the promises of God.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

OFFERTORY

Presbyter: O God, may we go forward into the coming year confident of your guidance and your love that binds us together. Loving God, people have benefited throughout the centuries because your nature is to bless abundantly. We respond to your blessings to us by offering these gifts, that they and we may be used to bless

others, to share burdens and to spread the gospel in word and deed. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

All: Be present, be present, O Jesus, you good high priest, as you were in the midst of your disciples and make yourself known to us in the breaking of the bread, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God world without end. Amen.

Presbyter: The Lord be with you:

All: And also with you.

Presbyter: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Presbyter: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presbyter: Truly it is right and good to glorify you at all times and in all places, by offering you our thanksgiving O Lord, Holy Father. You spoke and the light shattered darkness, order arose from confusion. You breathed into the dust of the earth and we were formed in your image. Through your Son, our Lord Jesus, you came to us while we wandered. He met us as a refugee, a threatened child. He called us by name to leave what is comfortable to be His disciples, friends and partners. With His outstretched arms on the cross, and through His death He bore our sins and through His resurrection we are saved. And through your Holy Spirit you brood over chaos that we create, mothering us and shaping a new creation. You enlighten everyone coming into the world. You inspired the prophets and the apostles to find the right word at the right time. You liberate, equip and commission your people for the continuance of your mission to make everything new. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we proclaim and sing your glory:

All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest.

Presbyter: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night, in which He was betrayed, took bread and when he had given thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. The same way after supper, He took the cup and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying: drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me

All: Lord we commemorate your death on the cross, we celebrate your resurrection, and we await your coming.

Presbyter: Eternal God, let your Holy Spirit move in power over us and over these earthly gifts of bread and wine, that they may be the communion of the Body and Blood of Christ, and that we may become one in Him. May His coming in glory find us ever watchful in prayer, strong in truth and love, and faithful in the breaking of the bread. Then, at last, all people will be free, all divisions healed, and with your whole creation, we will sing your praise, through your Son, Jesus Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presbyter: As our Saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us, we are bold to say:

All: Our Father in heaven, holy be your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

All: We do not presume to come to this your table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs from under your table. But you are the same Lord whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies and souls may be made clean by His most precious body and blood, and that we may evermore dwell in Him and He in us. Amen

Presbyter: When we break the bread, do we not share in the body of Christ?

All: We seek to share your life, gracious God.

Presbyter: When we lift the cup, do we not share in the lifeblood of Christ?

All: We seek to share your life, gracious God.

Presbyter: The things of God for the people of God:

**All: O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.**

Presbyter: The things of God for the people of God. Come to His table.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Presbyter: Having now by faith received the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ let us give thanks.

All: Merciful God of all creation, Holy Father of all people through our Lord Jesus Christ who united all things in his fullness, we join *your* whole creation in exultant praise *of* your bountiful goodness. You have now touched us with new life and filled us with new hope that your reign will come, that the hungry will be fed, that the oppressed will be set free from evil, that your reconciling work will be done, that love and faithfulness will meet together, that justice and peace will kiss each other and the whole creation will be filled with your glory. Amen

Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God, for ever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Presbyter: Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved but abides forever. As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people, from this time forth and forever. Peace be to his people! Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: Lead us heavenly father...

1. Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
O'er the world's tempestuous sea;
Guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
For we have no help but Thee;
Yet possessing every blessing,
If our God our Father be.
2. Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:
All our weakness Thou dost know;
Thou didst tread this earth before us,
Thou didst feel its keenest woe;
Lone and dreary, faint and weary,
Through the desert Thou didst go.
3. Spirit of our God, descending,
Fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
Love with every passion blending,
Pleasure that can never cloy:
Thus provided, pardoned, guided,
Nothing can our peace destroy.

