

NEW YEAR'S EVE

SERVICE

DECEMBER 31, 2025

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

CHURCH

*Missouri Synod*



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Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor

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956.463.1305

*Sunday*

9:00 AM

Worship Service

10:30 am

*Adult Bible Class*

*Sunday School*

Holy Communion:

Every Sunday

Website:

[lutheranmercedes.com](http://lutheranmercedes.com)

FACEBOOK:

[www.facebook.com/  
lutheranmercedes/](http://www.facebook.com/lutheranmercedes/)

Office Hrs, M-F

8:00 am to 12:00 pm

CCLI # 2585510

"Therefore you also  
be ready,  
for the Son of Man  
is coming

at an hour  
you do not expect."

Luke 12:40

# NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

December 31, 2025

## WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this evening. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are located in the pew racks in front of you.

**AS WE GATHER** Although not an official church holiday, New Year's Eve has been, for many centuries, a time for Christian people to gather for worship. The psalmist exclaims: "I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth" (Psalm 34:1). The changing of the calendar year is a most appropriate time for God's people to bless Him and thank Him for the time of the old year now ending and for the time yet to come in the new year. King David, the psalmist, shares this blessed invitation with us: "Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together!" (Psalm 34:3). In another of his thoughtfully reflective psalms, David says to the Lord: "But I trust in You, O LORD; I say, 'You are my God.' My times are in Your hand" (Psalm 31:14-15a). In our worship this New Year's Eve, we echo the faith-filled expression of King David, joyfully committing our time and commending our times to our gracious and faithful God.

**+ VESPERS +**

### PRELUDE

*Please Stand*

**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,

**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.

**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;  
**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.  
**C** Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.  
Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

**PSALM** *Psalm 90:1-12*

P Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

C **Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.**

P You turn man to destruction, and say, "Return, O children of men."

C **For a thousand years in Your sight are like yesterday when it is past, and like a watch in the night.**

P You carry them away like a flood; they are like a sleep. In the morning they are like grass which grows up:

C **In the morning it flourishes and grows up; in the evening it is cut down and withers.**

P For we have been consumed by Your anger, and by Your wrath we are terrified.

C **You have set our iniquities before You, our secret sins in the light of Your countenance.**

P For all our days have passed away in Your wrath; we finish our years like a sigh.

C **The days of our lives are seventy years; and if by reason of strength they are eighty years, yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.**

P Who knows the power of Your anger? For as the fear of You, so is Your wrath.

C **So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.**

## OPENING HYMN

*Now Thank We All Our God*

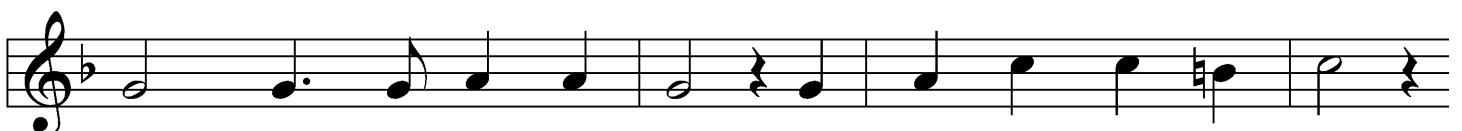
LSB 895



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voic - es,  
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,  
△ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,



Who won - drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;  
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us  
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,



Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way  
And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed  
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



With count - less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.  
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!  
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

*Please Sit*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**      *Isaiah 30:15–17*

(“In quietness and in trust shall be your strength.”)

15 For thus says the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel:

“In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and confidence shall be your strength.” But you would not,

16 And you said, “No, for we will flee on horses”—therefore you shall flee! And, “We will ride on swift horses”—therefore those who pursue you shall be swift!

17 One thousand shall flee at the threat of one, at the threat of five you shall flee, till you are left as a pole on top of a mountain and as a banner on a hill.

**P O Lord, have mercy on us.**

**C Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING**      *Romans 8:31b–39*

(God is for us!)

31 If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall bring a charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written:

“For Your sake we are killed all day long;  
We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.”

37 Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to

*Continue on next page*

separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 12:34-40*

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

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

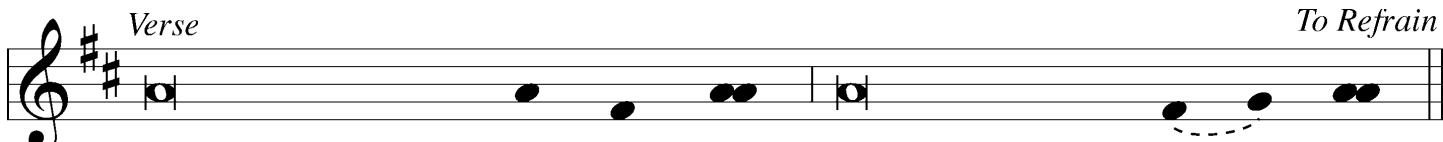
35 "Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning; 36 and you yourselves be like men who wait for their master, when he will return from the wedding, that when he comes and knocks they may open to him immediately. 37 Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching. Assuredly, I say to you that he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them. 38 And if he should come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. 39 But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 40 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

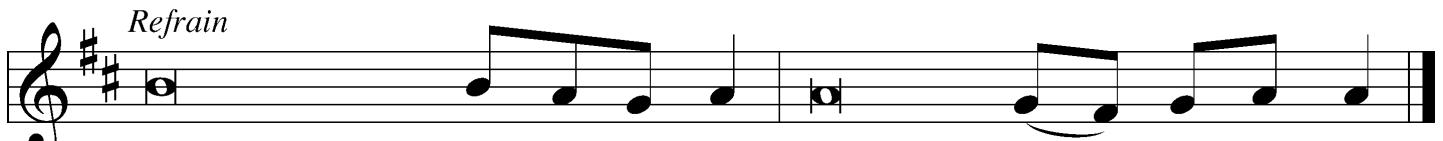
## COMMON RESPONSORY

*Based on Psalm 86:11; 119:105*



Verse To Refrain

**L** 1 Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth.  
2 Unite my heart to fear Your name that I may walk in Your truth.  
3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



Refrain

**C** Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

# HYMN OF THE DAY

*Across the Sky the Shades of Night*

LSB 899



1 A - cross the sky the shades of night This New Year's Eve are

2 Be - fore the cross sub - dued we bow, To You our prayer ad -



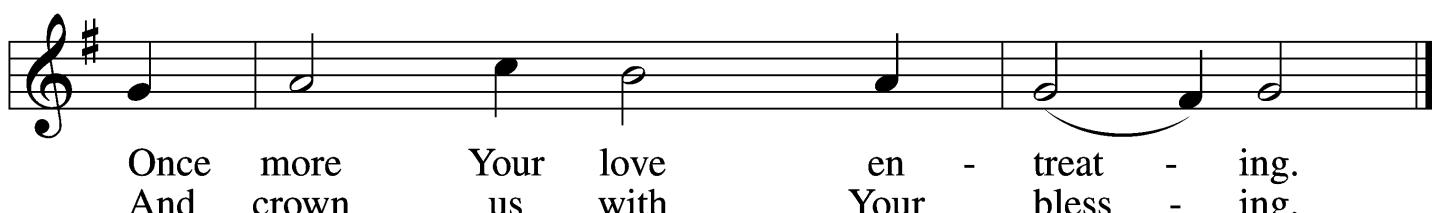
fleet - ing. We deck Your al - tar, Lord, with light, In  
dress - ing, Re - count - ing all Your mer - cies now, And



sol - emn wor - ship meet - ing; And as the year's last  
all our sins con - fess - ing; Be - seech - ing You this



hours go by, We raise to You our ear - nest cry,  
com - ing year To keep us in Your faith and fear



Once more Your love en - treat - ing.  
And crown us with Your - bless - ing.

3      We gather up in this brief hour  
          The mem'ry of Your mercies:  
          Your wondrous goodness, love, and pow'r  
          Our grateful song rehearses;  
          For You have been our strength and stay  
          In many\_a dark and dreary day  
          Of sorrow and reverses.

4      We now remember, as we pray,  
          Our dear ones in Your caring  
          Who brightly shine in endless day,  
          Past death and all despairing.  
          At our life's end, Lord, as Your own,

*Continue on next page*

Bring us with them around Your throne,  
The joys of heaven sharing.

5 Then, gracious God, in years to come,  
We pray Your hand may guide us,  
And, onward through our journey home,  
Your mercy walk beside us  
Until at last our ransomed life  
Is safe from peril, toil, and strife  
When heav'n itself shall hide us.

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## SERMON *“Blessed servants of the coming Master - Jesus”*

Luke 12:37-40

## OFFERING

## *Please Stand*

## CANTICLE

A musical score for 'The Star-Spangled Banner' in G clef, B-flat key signature, and common time. The melody begins with a half note on the fourth line, followed by a quarter note on the second line, and a dotted half note on the first line. The score consists of two staves of five-line music.

**L** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

A musical staff in treble clef, B-flat key signature, and 4/4 time. It features six notes: an eighth note on the first line, a half note on the third line, a sixteenth note on the fourth line, a sixteenth note on the third line, a sixteenth note on the second line, and a sixteenth note on the first line.

**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

# Magnificat

A musical score for a single melodic line. The key signature is one flat, and the time signature is common time. The score consists of two measures. The first measure contains six eighth notes: the first is on the A4 note, the second is on G4, the third is on A4, the fourth is on G4, the fifth is on A4, and the sixth is on G4. The second measure begins with a sharp sign, indicating a临时调 (local key change). It contains four eighth notes: the first is on G4, the second is on A4, the third is on G4, and the fourth is on F#4.

**C** My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Sav-ior;

A musical score for a single melodic line. The key signature is one flat, and the time signature is common time. The score consists of two measures. The first measure contains six notes: a quarter note, a eighth note, a sixteenth note, a sixteenth note, a eighth note, and a sixteenth note. The second measure contains four notes: a eighth note, a eighth note, a sixteenth note, and a eighth note. The notes are connected by vertical stems and horizontal beams. The first measure ends with a vertical bar line, and the second measure begins with a small vertical bracket under the first two notes.

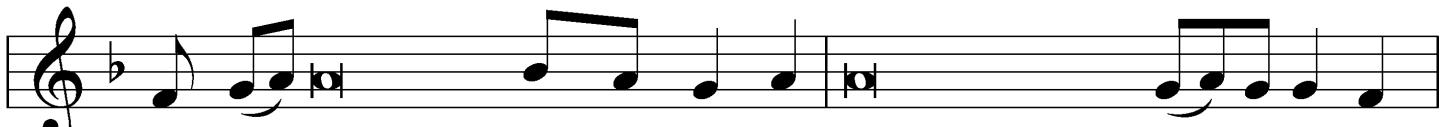
for He has re - gard - ed the lowliness of His hand - maid - en.

A musical score for a single melodic line. The key signature is one flat, and the time signature is common time. The score consists of two staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a flat symbol, and a common time signature. It contains six measures: a eighth note, a sixteenth note, a eighth note, a sixteenth note, a eighth note, and a sixteenth note. The second staff begins with a bass clef, a flat symbol, and a common time signature. It contains four measures: a eighth note, a sixteenth note, a eighth note, and a sixteenth note.

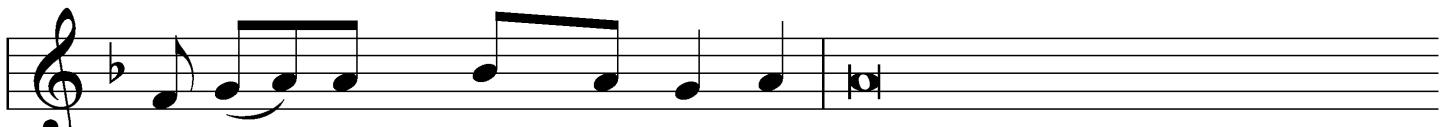
For be - hold, from this day all generations will call me bless - ed.



For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;



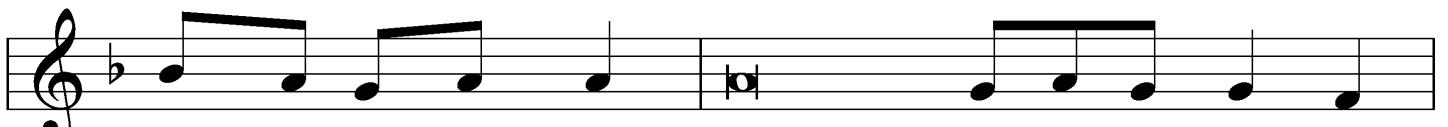
and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.



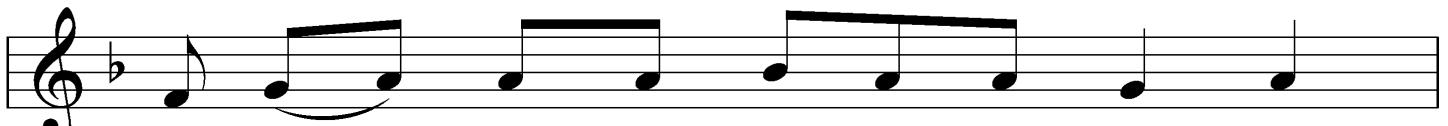
He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the



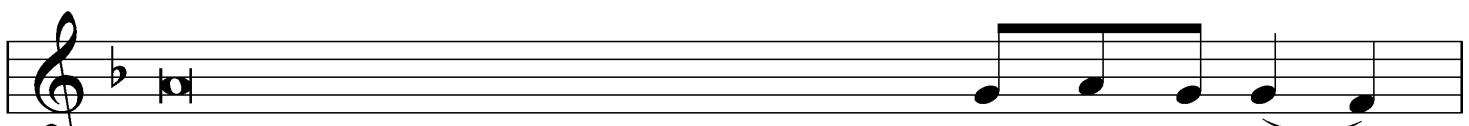
imagination of their hearts. He has cast down the



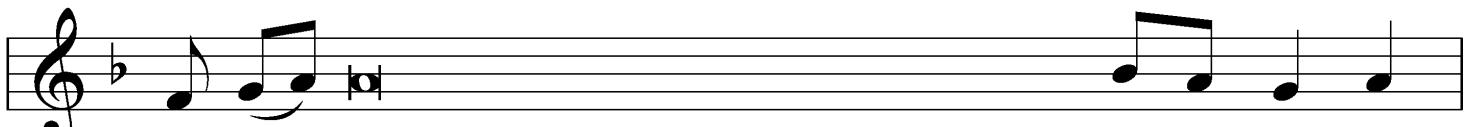
mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.



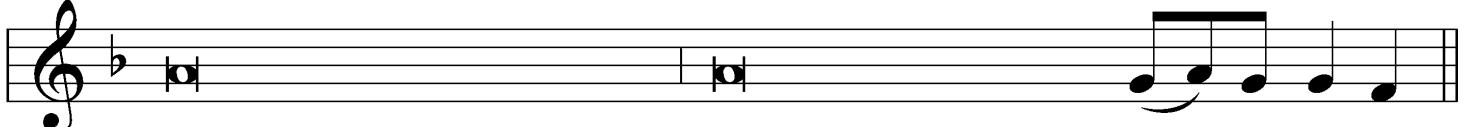
He has filled the hungry with good things,



and the rich He has sent empty away.



He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy



as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

**C** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;  
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A-men.

## KYRIE

**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**C** 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.

## COLLECT FOR TODAY

**P** Let us pray. Blessed are You, gracious God, for in Your great mercy You sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to be our Savior. You have graciously given us the gift of faith and have safely brought us to the conclusion of another year of grace. Grant that we may remain strong in faith and imbued with Your goodness throughout the coming year, that with joy and thankfulness we may

receive the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation, which come to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **CLOSING COLLECT**

P Let us pray. O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

## **LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER**

**C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.**

**Amen.**

## **BENEDICAMUS**

P Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **BENEDICTION**

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

**C Amen.**

*Please Sit*

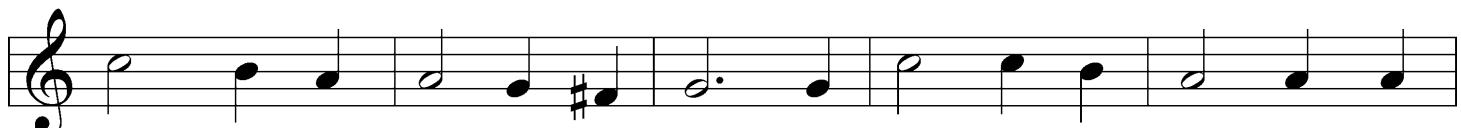
**CLOSING HYMN**

***When Peace, like a River***

**LSB 763**



1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way; When  
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, Let  
3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; My  
4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The

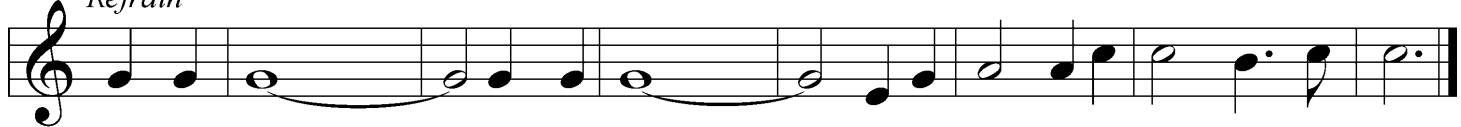


sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast  
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my  
sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross, and I  
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.  
help - less es - tate And hath shed His own blood for my soul.  
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
Lord shall de-scend; E - ven so it is well with my soul.

*Refrain*



It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

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**DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

