OPENING HYMN  # 71

OPENING SERVICE
P: Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world.
C: The light no darkness can overcome.
P: Stay with us, for it is evening.
C: And the day is almost over.
P: Let your light scatter the darkness.
C: Let it shine in our hearts and lives. Amen.

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER - Page 153

FIRST LESSON - Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

What does the worker gain from his toil? I have seen the burden God has laid on men. He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the hearts of men; yet they cannot fathom what God has done from beginning to end. I know that there is nothing better for men than to be happy and do good while they live. That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil--this is the gift of God.

PSALM OF THE DAY - Psalm 90 (page 99)

GOSPEL LESSON - Luke 12:16-21

And Jesus told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' 

"Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." '

"But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?'

"This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."

HYMN  # 70


OUR SAVIOR CHALLENGES US FOR THE NEW YEAR

OFFERING

PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION SERVICE

- Confession of Sins - Page 26
- Words of Institution & Distribution - Page 35 ff
- Distribution Hymn # 441 (# 72 if needed)

CLOSING HYMN  # 69 vv 1-3

Organist: LeAnn Marzinske

Holy Communion will be offered in our service today. We practice Close Communion. Visitors from our sister congregations in the WELS and ELS are welcome to commune with us. If you are a guest and wish to commune, please speak to the Pastor before the service.

January calendars and new Forward in Christ magazines are available.

Holy Communion will also be offered at our regular Sunday morning services: Trinity - 8:30 and St. John’s – 10:00.

We wish all of you a most blessed New Year!

As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."
Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."
He said to another man, "Follow me."
But the man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."
Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God."
Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-by to my family."
Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."