

Home Worship Liturgy
New Year's Eve
December 31, 2020

The Lord be with you! We invite you to combine individual or family worship in your home with a video available on the Calvin Church website around 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 31: <https://www.calvincrc.org/recent-services/>

Italicized parts of the liturgy are included in the video, so you can choose to participate along with the video or on your own.

Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper, a gracious gift that God provides to Christ's body, the church. All who have been baptized into Christ and who desire to honor him with grateful and obedient living are invited to participate in this sacrament, discerning that this bread and cup are signs and seals of God's love for us and that we who participate are members of Christ's body.

Prelude: Be Thou My Vision – Charles Callahan

Welcome

God's Greeting:

Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Opening Declaration of Dependence:

O God, our help in ages past

We bring our praise and thanksgiving to you at the close of the year.

O God, our hope for years to come

We look to you as we begin a new year.

O God, our guide while life shall last

We seek your leading in our lives each day.

O God, our eternal home

We come as your children, trusting you for our tomorrows.

*Opening Hymn: "God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength" (stanzas 1,3,5)
(see the end of this document for music and lyrics)*

If those gathered choose to sing more songs together, here are a few options:

- Sing familiar hymns accompanied by a piano or another instrument, if available.
- Sing familiar hymns a cappella.
- Consult hymnary.org for hymn lyrics (and some music sheets) to distribute, if necessary.

The Communion of the Saints: A Remembrance of Members Who Died in 2020

Before the video prayer, you may wish to speak or journal your own prayers, and then join your prayers to others as you start the video again.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

*Hymn: "If You but Trust in God to Guide You" (stanzas 1-3)
(see the end of this document for music and lyrics)*

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may hear your Word with joy. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Psalm 103

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon: "Steadfast"

Prayer of Application

The Lord's Supper

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

We thank and praise you, Lord God. You have given us life and being, and preserve us by your providence. But you have shown us the fullness of your love in sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ, the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our salvation. For the precious gift of this mighty Savior who has reconciled us to you we praise and bless you, O God.

With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup and proclaim the death and resurrection of our Lord. Receive our sacrifice of praise. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us that this meal may be a communion in the body and blood of our Lord. Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love, that we may serve as your faithful disciples until we feast at your table in glory. We praise you, eternal God, through Christ your Word made flesh, in the holy and life-giving Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Let us confess together our faith, as it is signed and sealed in this sacrament:

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit***

***and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

(You may prepare the elements, breaking the bread and pouring the cup, during the following words of institution.)

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me. Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes.

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

(Each worshiper eats the bread, saying to oneself or to one another, "The body of Christ for you. Each worshiper drinks from the cup, saying to oneself or to one another, "The blood of Christ for you.")

Acclamation (from Psalm 103):

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits –

who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

Offertory Prayer

Benediction:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

Amen.

Doxology: "To God Be the Glory"

(see the end of this document for music and lyrics)

Postlude: Toccata on "How Firm a Foundation" – Claude Murphree

Preaching Pastor: Rev. Rebecca Jordan Heys

Deacon: Rob Stafford

Organist: Kenneth Bos

Handbell: Annika Baker

Audio: Annika Baker

Video: Hap Hecker

Video Editing: Mark DeKoster

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432 God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength

PSALM 46

1 God is our ref - uge and our strength, our ev - er - pres - ent aid,
 2 A riv - er flows whose streams make glad the cit - y of our God,
 3 The na - tions rage, the king - doms move, but when his voice is heard,
 4 O come and see what won - drous works the hand of God has done;
 5 "Be still and know that I am God, the LORD whom all must claim;

and there - fore, though the earth be moved, we will not be a - fraid—
 the ho - ly place where - in the LORD Most High has his a - bode.
 > earth melts with trem - bling fear be - fore the thun - der of his word.
 come, see what de - so - la - tion great he brings be - neath the sun.
 and ev - ery na - tion of the earth shall mag - ni - fy my name."

though hills in - to the seas be cast, though foam - ing wa - ters roar,
 Since God is in the midst of her, un - moved her walls shall stand;
 >The LORD of hosts is on our side, our safe - ty to se - cure;
 In ev - ery cor - ner of the earth he caus - es wars to cease;
 The LORD of hosts is on our side, our safe - ty to se - cure;

though all the might - y bil - lows shake the moun - tains on the shore.
 for God will has - ten to her aid when trou - ble is at hand.
 >the God of Ja - cob is for us a ref - uge strong and sure.
 the wea - pons of the strong de - stroyed, he makes a - bid - ing peace.
 the God of Ja - cob is for us a re - fuge strong and sure.

For another setting of Ps. 46 see 892

Words: *Scottish Psalter*, 1650, alt., P.D.

Music (GERARD/NOEL 8.6.8.6 D): English; adapt. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1874, P.D.

407 If You But Trust in God to Guide You

Gm Eb D Bb D Gm

1 If you but trust in God to guide you and place your con - fi -
 2 On - ly be still and wait his plea - sure in cheer - ful hope with
 3 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your ser - vice

Cm D Gm Eb D

dence in him, you'll find him al - ways there be - side you
 heart con - tent. He fills your needs to full - est mea - sure
 faith - ful - ly, and trust his word; though un - de - serv - ing,

Bb D Gm Cm D Gm D Bb

to give you hope and strength with - in; for those who trust God's
 with what dis - cern - ing love has sent; doubt not our in - most
 you'll find his prom - ise true to be. God nev - er will for -

F Bb Gm D Eb Cm7 D Gm

change - less love build on the rock that will not move.
 wants are known to him who chose us for his own.
 sake in need the soul that trusts in him in - deed.

Chord symbols represent a simplified harmony.

Words: Georg Neumark, 1641; tr. composite

Music (NEUMARK/WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT 9.8.9.8.8.8): Georg Neumark, 1657, P.D.

To God Be the Glory

B^b Dm7 G7 Cm7 E^bm6 F

To God be the glo - ry, to God be the glo - ry, to

D7sus D7 Gm7 C9 F^{sus} F F7

God be the glo - ry for the things he has done! With his

B^b Dm7 G7 Cm7 Em6 F

blood he has saved me, with his power he has raised me— to

D G^{sus} Em7(♭5) B^b/F E^b/F B^b

God be the glo - ry for the things he has done!