

## PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.      **People: And also with you.**  
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.      **People: We lift them to the Lord.**  
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, wholesome, and proper that we give thanks to You, our gracious heavenly Father, for You have had created and preserved us and have given Your only-begotten Son for our salvation. Enlighten us with the gifts of Your Spirit so that we may walk as children of the light and not of the darkness. Grant that we may receive the body and blood of our Lord as a guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in the brightness of Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.      **People: Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** (Inside back cover of Hymnal)

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## AGNUS DEI

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**  
**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**  
**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN**      "Lamb of God"      LSB #550  
   "Abide With Me"      LSB #878

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Blessed are You, heavenly Father, for You have once again fed and nourished us at Your table through the body and blood of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. May the light of Your presence shine upon us as we proclaim Your love to all the world and share Your blessings. Keep us steadfast and faithful until at last we come to the unending and glorious light of Your eternal kingdom, where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.      **People: Amen.**

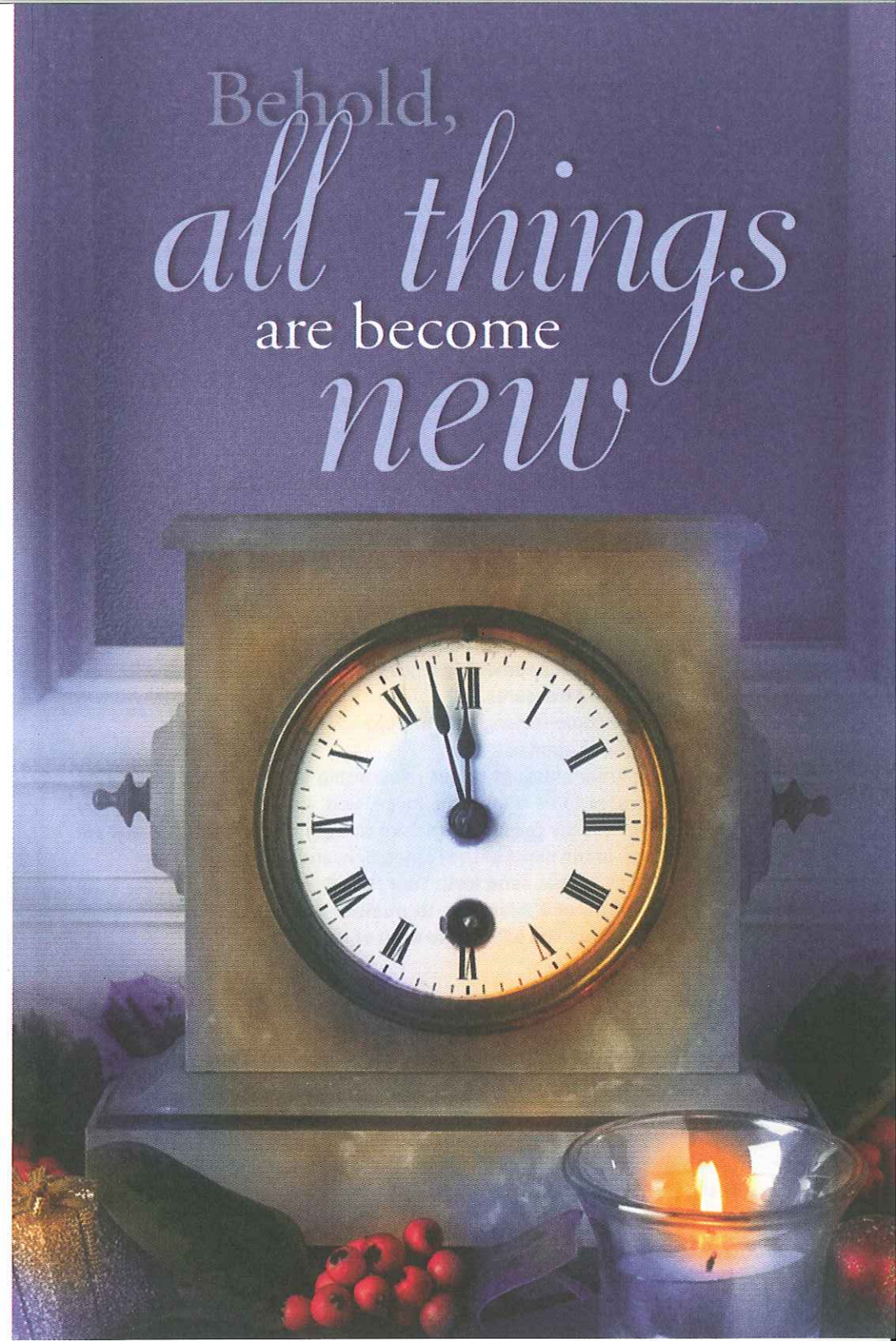
## CELEBRATION OF LIGHT

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world  
**People: the light no darkness can overcome.**  
Pastor: Stay with us Lord, morning and evening, and illumine Your Church.  
**All: The darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining.**

## BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.      **People: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**      "All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night"      LSB #883



Behold,  
*all things*  
are become  
*new*

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**  
**New Year's Eve Worship Service 2011**

**INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: The LORD is my light and my salvation whom shall I fear?

**People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Pastor: God is light

**People: and in Him is no darkness at all.**

**CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: As we prepare to enter a new year, let us take a moment for personal reflection upon this past year. (*Moment of silence.*) Let us now confess unto Almighty God our sinfulness. Dear Heavenly Father, we confess unto You...

**People: That our lives are riddled with sin and it's consequences.**

Pastor: We say that we love You with all our hearts...

**People: But, we seem to have so little time for You on a daily basis.**

Pastor: We recognize that You have numbered our days and have given each of us the breath of life...

**People: However, we have chosen to live our lives as we choose!**

Pastor: We know that You give everything that is holy and blessed in our lives...

**People: Yet we have been very unwilling to give back to You thanksgiving for our time, talents, and treasures.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we come seeking Your mercy and forgiveness.

**People: Lord, have mercy upon us!**

Pastor: One of the great blessings of our relationship with Almighty God is that He never ceases to be a merciful, loving God. As His servant among you this evening, it is my calling to proclaim to each of you that your sins are truly forgiven in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**People: Dear Heavenly Father, send forth Your Holy Spirit to strengthen our faith and trust in You and enable us to number wisely the remaining days, months, and years You will give to each of us.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, we bless You for Your light that is growing among us. We rejoice in the lengthening of daylight and in the hope and promise of the New Year. We bless You for the growth of Jesus, the Babe of Bethlehem and the Light of the World. Look with favor upon Your people gathered for worship at this time. Be our Light in all times and places. May Your Holy Spirit enlighten us with His gifts that we may reflect Your glory in all that we say and do. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN**

"Our God, Our Help In Ages Past"

LSB #733

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Eternal God, ... .. one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT Numbers 6:22-27**

*Lector: The LORD said to Moses, <sup>23</sup> "Tell Aaron and his sons, 'This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them: <sup>24</sup> The LORD bless you and keep you; <sup>25</sup> the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; <sup>26</sup> the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace. <sup>27</sup> So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them. This is the Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE Galatians 3:23-29**

*Lector: Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. <sup>24</sup> So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law. <sup>26</sup> You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, <sup>27</sup> for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. This is the Word of the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL Luke 12:35-40 (Being ready for the coming of the Lord.)**

Pastor: "Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, <sup>36</sup> like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. <sup>37</sup> It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. I tell you the truth, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. <sup>38</sup> It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the second or third watch of the night. <sup>39</sup> But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him." This is the Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN**

"Across the Sky the Shades of Night"

LSB #899

**SERMON**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH**

Nicene Creed

(*Inside back cover of Hymnal*)

**GATHERING OF OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

LSB #783

**PRAYERS**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy

**People: hear our prayer.**