

New Year's Eve Communion Service

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: What a year this has been!

P: So many things have happened. Some of them have been wonderful; others very sad.

L: In all of this our Lord has been with us, guiding, healing, comforting, and rejoicing.

P: Thanks be to God for God's continual presence with us.

L: Now we are on the threshold to a new tomorrow.

P: We don't know what it will hold for us.

L: In all of what is to come, our Lord will be with us.

P: Guiding, healing, comforting, and rejoicing with us.

ALL: Thank you, Lord, for your steadfast love and presence.

AMEN.

Hymn: O God, Our Help in Ages Past VT 203 vs. 1,2,4,6

Scripture Reading – Isaiah 43:1-3a, 18-21 OT pg 822

Affirmation of Faith for a New Year

Leader: At the dawn of a new year,
we come to welcome hope for a new world.

People: Let the darkness lift,

Leader: to welcome a dawn of plenty,
with enough for everyone and people ready to share.

People: Let the day begin,

Leader: with new energy for the struggle
to protect the weak and to care for the vulnerable.

People: Let the light shine,

Leader: to open a path to safety for all who are seeking home
and longing for life.

People: Let the sun rise

Leader: on new talks and new resolve to end the bombing and
the terror and to find solutions that will last.

**People: At the dawn of a new year we come to declare our
hope and to welcome a new world.**

~ written by Susan Durber, and posted on the Monthly Prayers page of
the **Christian Aid** website. <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/>

Scripture Reading: Selected verses from Romans 8

Meditation

Hymn: Great is Thy Faithfulness

VT 419

Communion

Prayer

Pledge of Love

VT 937

L: Friends, as we gather to eat the bread and drink the cup, let
us respond with the pledge of love:

Will you love God before all things, in the power of God's
living Word, and join yourself to God's way?

ALL: By the grace of God, I will.

L: Will you love and serve our neighbors, and lay down your
life through the power of Jesus Christ, who laid down his life
for us?

ALL: By the grace of God, I will.

L: Will you support and challenge one another, speak and hear
the truth, cease what causes harm to our neighbors, and do
good to our enemies?

ALL: By the grace of God, I will.

L: May the Spirit of God who calls the church to Christ's
Supper give us the grace, strength, and patience to live this
pledge of love.

ALL: Amen

Words of Institution

Sharing of Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Closing Blessing

**(Thank you to pianist Vicki Ensz; Deacons Lori, Vern & Don,
& Pastor Roger)**

God's Blessings to all in the New Year!

First Mennonite Church

6714 W State Hwy 4, Beatrice, NE 68310

