

Joint Evening Service

Sunday Jan. 10th 7pm

“Out with the Old in with the new”

Welcome

Quote by the late Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

Credo Times August 2013

“I believe faith is part of what makes us human. It is a basic attitude of trust that always goes beyond the available evidence, but without which we would do nothing great. Without faith in one another we could not risk the vulnerability of love. Without faith in the future we would not choose to have a child. Without faith in the intelligibility of the universe we would not do science. Without faith in our fellow citizens we would not have a free society.”

Hymn 161 (CH4): O God our help in ages past

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home;

A thousand ages in your sight
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Beneath the shadow of your throne
your saints have lived secure;
sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
Thy fly forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting You are God,
To endless years the same

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be now our guard while life shall last,
And our eternal home!

Prayer:

As we come to the Lord at the start of the New Year, let us seek his grace to number our days,
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom
as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

For the sin that has made us slow to learn from Christ, reluctant to follow him and afraid to bear the cross: Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, forgive.**

For the sin that has caused the poverty of our worship, the formality and selfishness of our prayers,
our neglect of fellowship and the means of grace,
and our hesitating witness for Christ:

Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, forgive.**

For the sin that has led us to misuse your gifts,
evade our responsibilities and fail to be good stewards of your creation: Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, forgive.**

For the sin that has made us unwilling to overcome evil with good, tolerant of injustice, quick to condemn
and selfish in sharing your love with others:
Lord, have mercy.

All: **Lord, forgive.**

New year customs:

Hymn 96 (CH4):
(sing verses one to three)

O God you search me and you know me

O God, you search me and you know me.
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.
When I walk or lie down, you are before me,
Ever the maker and keeper of my days.

You know my resting and my rising.
You discern my purpose from afar,
and with love everlasting you besiege me:
In ev'ry moment of life or death, you are.

Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,
you have known its meaning through and through.
You are with me beyond my understanding:
God of my present, my past and future too.

Communion

Hymn 96 (CH4):
(sing last two verses)

O God you search me and you know me

Although your Spirit is upon me,
still I search for shelter from your light.
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:
Even the darkness is radiant in your sight.

For you created me and shaped me,
gave me life within my mother's womb.
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:
Safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

Closing verse and promise (after C.H. Spurgeon's New Year address)

¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.