***God's mercies never come to an end:***

**Service for New Year's Eve**

***上帝的憐憫永不終止***

**除夕崇拜**

By Ruth Hofman[[1]](#footnote-1)

**WELCOME 歡迎**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE PEOPLE OF THE LAND 承認土地上的原住民**

**ALL: We acknowledge the Wallumettegal people, the first inhabitants and custodians of this place from time beyond remembering.**

**我們承認Wallumettegal族是這片土地的原住民，也是從遠古時期開始的守護者。**

**HYMN** TiS 107 **Sing praise and thanksgiving**

Sing praise and thanksgiving,

let all creatures living

now worship their maker with

gladness and song;

all glory and honour

we come to him bringing:

*O praise to the Almighty,*

*sing praise to our God!*

Our lives of his making

he brings to their waking;

in darkness he held us in

his gracious care,

now into the light we are

called from our sleeping:

*O praise to the Almighty …*

Lord, frame our desiring

to do your requiring,

that unto your glory be

all that we do;

and where we have faltered,

give strength and give healing:

*O praise to the Almighty …*

**CALL TO WORSHIP 宣召**

Lead: Rejoice, friends of God! Celebrate the new life that has been born among us.

主席： 歡欣，上帝的朋友們！慶祝在我們中間誕生的新生命。

**All: Thanks be to God, we are born anew in Jesus Christ, the hope of all the world.**

**We come to God, this moment, to praise the One for faithfulness throughout our days and to pray for guidance in the coming year.**

**We come to God, our Creator Redeemer, who formed us and moulded us, who healed us and made us whole. We place ourselves before God, whose care we know and whose help we seek.**

**會眾： 感謝上帝，我們在耶穌基督裡得以重生，是全世界的盼望。**

**我們在這一刻來到上帝面前，讚美那位在我們一生中信實的主，並為來年的引導祈禱。**

**我們來到上帝面前，我們的創造者救贖主，是那位塑造我們、形成我們、醫治我們，使我們完整的主。我們將自己放在那位我們知道關懷我們，也讓我們尋求幫助的上帝面前。**

Lead: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us worship God.

主席： 基督裡的弟兄姊妹，讓我們一起敬拜主。

**HYMN** TiS 137 **For the beauty of the earth 颂扬造物主**

For the beauty of the earth,

for the beauty of the skies,

for the love which from our birth

over and around us lies,

*Christ, our God, to you we raise*

*this our sacrifice of praise.*

环观大地好风光，仰视荣耀美穹苍，

回想诞生到如今，主爱时常绕我旁。

*敬向宇宙全能神，獻上揚感謝心。*

From the beauty of each hour

of the day and of the night,

hill and vale, and tree and flower,

sun and moon and stars of light,

*Christ, our God, to you we raise …*

靜觀晝夜每時辰，宇宙萬物彩繽紛，

山川花木景奇伟，日月星辰何光辉。

*敬向宇宙全能神，獻上揚感謝心。*

For the joy of human love,

brother, sister, parent, child,

friends on earth and friends above,

for all gentle thoughts and mild,

*Christ, our God, to you we raise …*

世間惟愛系人群，父母兒女樂天倫，

人间天上友朋多，温柔和善爱真纯。

*敬向宇宙全能神，獻上揚感謝心。*

For the church that evermore,

lifting holy hands above,

offers up on every shore

the pure sacrifice of love,

*Christ, our God, to you we raise …*

上主教会遍四方，会众常举圣洁手，

敬将纯洁爱之祭，献与恩主到永久。

*敬向宇宙全能神，獻上揚感謝心。*

**CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE**

Eternal God, who can make all things new, we humbly bring before you the record of our lives in the year now ending.

Where life has been good to us, we give you thanks and praise. Where we have been good to others, may our reward be your smiling face. Where we have fallen short of your good pleasure, forgive us and free us from our failures and misunderstandings.

永恆的上帝，能使萬物更新的主，我們謙卑地將我們在即將結束的這一年中的生活呈獻在你面前。

在生活中對我們有益的地方，我們感謝並讚美祢。在我們對別人有益的地方，願我們的回報是祢微笑的臉龐。在我們未能達到祢的善意之處，請寛恕我們，使我們擺脫我們的錯誤和誤解。

*Remembering and confessing in silence 靜默記念並認罪*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY 今日之禱告**

Holy God, cleanse us by your mercy, guide us by your truth, fill us with your love, and lead us forward in hope, through the grace of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

聖潔的上帝，求祢用祢的慈悲潔淨我們，用祢的真理指引我們，用祢的愛充滿我們，藉著我們主耶穌基督的恩惠，帶領我們在盼望中前行。**阿們。**

**ANNOUNCEMENT 報告**

**CHILDREN’S TALK 兒童故事**

**THE PEACE 平安禮**

**SCRIPTURE** Philippians 3:13-14 (New Revised Standard Version)

讀經 腓立比書 3:13-14

**13**Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+3%3A13-14%3B+Revelation+21%3A1-5&version=NRSVUE,RCU17TS,KLB#fen-NRSVUE-29418a)] of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, **14**I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+3%3A13-14%3B+Revelation+21%3A1-5&version=NRSVUE,RCU17TS,KLB#fen-NRSVUE-29419b)] call of God in Christ Jesus.

**13**弟兄們，我不是以為自己已經得着了；我只有一件事，就是忘記背後，努力面前的， **14**向着標竿直跑，要得上帝在基督耶穌裏從上面召我來得的獎賞。

 Word of the Lord. 主的話語。

 **Thanks be to God. 感謝上帝。**

**SERMON** Rev’d Tennyson Chan *Embrace 2024*

**講道** 陳志偉牧師 *擁抱 2024*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Eleanor Lau

**為世人禱告** 劉敏華

全能的主，感謝祢，因為我們是蒙福的；祢賜予了美好的天氣和豐富的資源，吸引不同文化語言的人居住。我們為這個國家擔任權威職位的人禱告。我們祈求他們能明智公正地治理，讓所有人都能生活在和平與安全中。

我們為遭受戰爭、饑荒、火災或洪水摧殘的國家禱告。求主安慰並保護那些失去親人和家園的人。我們為難民禱告，求主為他們在絕望中找到希望，自由、安全和心靈的平靜。求主祢引導所有擁有權威的人回到和平之路，尊重有不同政見的人。我們繼續為世界和平祈禱和努力。

我們記得生活在孤獨飢餓中、無家的、弱勢社群，求祢幫助他們找到友誼，被接納，有平安。

充滿愛的神，我們為身心受痛苦的人祈禱，求祢用愛使他們有最合適的護理。

主啊，在我們最需要的時刻請與我們同在。

我們為教會禱告，為所有的會眾，同工和牧師禱告，更團結更興旺。主祢開路指引未來的事工發展。我們為曾參加各項社區活動的朋友禱告，求主的愛在他們的心發芽。

回顧2023年，我們感恩無論是在經歷歡樂悲傷孤獨，主祢也時刻與我們同在。我們期待著未來來臨，確信仁慈全能的上帝您依然會時刻與我們同在。

奉耶穌基督聖名祈求，阿們。

Mighty God,

we thank you as we are blessed. You have given us this land of rich resources and favourable climate. We pray for all in positions of authority. May they govern wisely and justly so that we all may live in peace and safety.

We pray for countries ravaged by war, famine, fire or floods. Console and protect those who have lost family members or homes. We pray for all refugees everywhere. Ever present God, bring them peace and hope for a positive future. Lead those in authority back into the way of peace. We continue to pray and fight for peace in the world.

We remember those who feel alone, unloved, or disadvantaged. God please help them to be included and to know that they are loved by you and that you have good plans for hope for them. Surround them with loving and healing support.

Mercy God, we pray for those who are sick in mind or body. Bring hope, bring healing.

Oh Lord Jesus, you are with us in the hour of need.

We pray for Eastwood Uniting Church, church council, congregation, volunteers, especially Ministers as they continue to lead us on our spiritual journey. May the future of EUC be filled with blessed faith, hope and love. Make your love home in the hearts of all who have participated in previous community activities.

Looking back at 2023, we experienced joy and sorrow; we felt blessed and challenged. We are reminded that you are present through it all. We are reminded that we are never alone. We look forward to the year to come. We are confident that you will be with us still.

In Jesus name, Amen

**THE LORD’S PRAYER 主禱文**

**OFFERING AND DEDICATION 奉獻**

Lead: Sisters and brothers,

God gives us what is good.

God’s acts of grace are more than we can count.

After this worship service, everyone is invited to place your offering in collection plate, and to place your new year wish as well.

May we give to God the best of our hearts, our lives, and our resources.

主席： 弟兄姊妹們，

 上帝給予我們的都是美好的。

上帝的恩典之舉超乎我們所能數算。

在這次崇拜之後，歡迎大家將奉獻放入奉獻盤中，並將新年的祝福也放入其中。

願我們將心、生命和資源中最好的獻給上帝。

**All: God of hope and new life, receive what we will place before you: the treasures of our household, and the deepest hopes of our hearts.**

**In giving to you, may we draw ever closer to you, and to an understanding of the amazing miracle of Emmanuel: You with us.**

**We pray in the name of the Christmas Child. Amen.**

**會眾： 充滿盼望和新生命的上帝，接受我們將獻上的一切：我們家庭的珍寶和我們心靈深處的盼望。**

**在獻給你的過程中，願我們與你更加親近，更深刻地理解以馬內利這一驚人的奇蹟：祢與我們同在。**

**我們奉聖誕之子的名祈禱。阿們。**

**HYMN** **詩歌** TiS 547 **Be thou my vision 求作遠象歌**

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art

thou my best thought, by day or by night,

waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

求我心中王 成為我異象
我別無愛慕 惟主我景仰
充滿我思想 我心嚮往
睡著或睡醒 慈容是我光

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my thru word;

I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;

thou my great Father, thy child let me be;

thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.

成為我智慧 成為我箴言
我願常跟隨 祢在我身邊
祢是我聖父 我是祢子
祢常居我心 我與祢合一

Riches I scorn and the world’s empty praise,

thou my inheritance, now and always:

thou and thou only the first in my heart;

high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

我不求虛名 也不求富有
祢是我基業 從今到永久
惟祢在我心 永遠居首
天上大君王 祢是我萬有

High King of heaven, after victory won,

may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s Sun!

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,

still be my vision, O ruler of all.

天上大君王 光明的太陽
容我享天樂 我已打勝仗
我心屬祢心 永無變更
萬有的主宰 成為我異象

**PARTING PROMISE** Revelation 21:1-5 (New Revised Standard Version)

散會應許 啟示錄 21:1-5

**1**Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **2**And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3**And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them and be their God;
**4**he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

**5**And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

**1**我又看見一個新天新地，因為先前的天和先前的地已經過去了，海也不再有了。 **2**我又看見聖城，新耶路撒冷由　神那裏，從天而降，預備好了，就如新娘打扮整齊，等候丈夫。 **3**我聽見有大聲音從寶座出來，說：

「看哪，　神的帳幕在人間！
他要和他們同住，
他們要作他的子民。
　神要親自與他們同在。
**4**　神要擦去他們一切的眼淚；
不再有死亡，
也不再有悲哀、哭號、痛苦，
因為先前的事都過去了。」

**5**那位坐在寶座上的說：「看哪，我把一切都更新了！」他又說：「你要寫下來，因為這些話是可信靠的，是真實的。」

 Word of the Lord. 主的話語。

 **Thanks be to God. 感謝上帝。**

**PARTING BLESSING 散會祝福**

Lead: In this year, and the new year, the Lord be with you.

主席： 在這一年，並在新的一年，願主與你們同在。

**All: And also with you.**

**會眾： 也與你同在。**

May Almighty God—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit—bless, preserve, and keep us this moment and for evermore. **Amen.**

願全能的上帝——父、子、聖靈——在這一刻和永遠祝福、保守我們。阿們。

**SUNG BLESSING** TiS 778 **Shalom to you now**

**散會歌**

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.

May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving,

Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

1. This service was prepared by Ruth Hofman, pastor of Grace Christian Reformed Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan. She based it on a service originally planned by Lorraine Land for the congregation at First Christian Reformed Church, Toronto, Ontario. Retrieved (Nov 2018) from [www.reformedworship.org](http://www.reformedworship.org). Edited (Dec 2023) by Seung Jae Yeon in accordance with the local context of Eastwood Uniting Church. Translated (29 Dec 2023) by Jermaine Yan. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)