



## Virtual Service 2 January 2022

### Welcome!

(Larry Robbins)

Welcome to the first service in the New Year. The year of our Lord 2022. On behalf of the church leadership may I express the wish that 2022 is a happy one for you, and a healthy one.

Happy New Year!

### Prayer

(Jim Milmine)

*Almighty God, our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your Name. You are great and high and holy and we come before You as Your people, to offer up to You our prayers of Adoration, Thanksgiving and Praise.*

*You O God are omniscient – knowing all things from the beginning to the end. You, O God have been with us through the difficult year that is past. You have seen our challenges. You have been saddened by our weaknesses. You have rejoiced in our successes.*

*We repent of all those things that have hindered us from abiding in You. Forgive us, we pray, for the times we have not placed You first in our lives but have trusted in our own schemes. Forgive the times when we have neglected to communicate with You in prayer and when we have not focussed on the reading of Your Word. We remember again Jesus' final words to the disciples, "and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age". Help us, O God, in this new year to heed and obey what You have asked of us and confirm again in our hearts that You will be with us in 2022 – even until You return to take us to be with You forever.*

*We pray for our Leadership Team and the decisions made which will affect us all in this new year. May our resolutions for the new year be made in accordance with Your will and direction for our lives.*

*We bring before You those of our number who need special help – whose names we remember silently before You...*

- *Those who require specific direction in this new year.*
- *Those who are struggling with health and old age issues.*
- *Those who have suffered the loss of a loved one.*
- *Those who are becoming fearful as Covid, fires, earthquakes, floods, tornadoes and deception in high places, appear to be overwhelming us and the world at large.*

*Help us O God in 2022, to praise You in the happy moments.*

*Help us O God in 2022, to seek You in the difficult moments.*

*Help us O God in 2022, to worship You in the quiet moments.*

*Help us O God in 2022, to trust You in the painful moments.*

*Help us O God in 2022, to continually be thankful in every moment.*

*We thank You for Your continuing presence with us. We thank You for the love, joy, and peace given to the world at this Christmas Season and may the presence of our risen Lord Himself, go with each of us and those who we love into this New Year.*

*We pray these things in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*Amen.*

**Offering Prayer:**

*Almighty God, You have given us all things richly to enjoy. Accept our gifts we pray and may they be used here and in our mission interests overseas, to the glory of Your name and the increase in Your Kingdom here on earth. Amen.*

**Call to Worship**

**(Brian Lima)**

*Psalm 100:1–5*

*Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.*

*Worship the Lord with gladness;  
come before him with joyful songs.*

*Know that the Lord is God.*

*It is he who made us, and we are his;  
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.*

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving*

*and his courts with praise;  
give thanks to him and praise his name.*

*For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;*

*his faithfulness continues through all generations.*

“Let us, as the psalmist, worship the Lord with thankfulness and come before Him with joyful songs.”

**Hymn: Be Thou My Vision**

**(Brian Lima)**

[Be Thou My Vision](#)

**Hymn: Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

**(Brian Lima)**

[Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing](#)

**Testimony**

**(Eileen Warth)**

Pastor Brian has asked me to share a little about thankfulness. I am aware that any one of us could give a wide range of reasons to be thankful, so, much of what I have to share will have a familiar ring to it. Let's start with our home base. We thank our Lord daily for our food, and yes, we can thank Him too that our floors need to be swept because that means we have houses to live in. Thank you, Lord, that there's a pile of laundry waiting to be washed, because that means we have clothes to wear. Provision upon provision, thank you, Lord.

I give thanks too, for the family in which I grew up. It truly was a carefree and idyllic childhood. And you can guess I am going to say thank you for my marriage, our children and grandchildren. Maurice really is my Lord's nearest and dearest gift to me. And when I look out upon you folk gathered here, I give thanks to God for every one of you. The Saturday morning prayer group upholds you regularly, giving thanks for you and asking for your needs to be met, for your faith to be strengthened as we encourage one another and build each other up.

I am well aware that the continual state of thankfulness I feel, is deeply rooted in what God has done for me, for us! He loves us so much that He gave His only Son to redeem us so that we might live with Him in eternity. Praise His name.

There are wonderful scriptures ad infinitum for which I am thankful, but I will mention just one. It is the Lord's prayer. While the prayer begins and ends with giving honour and glory to our Father God, there is a section which is becoming increasingly meaningful to me. "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." I am thankful for the truth in those words because, in order for God to forgive my wrong doings, my wrong thinking, my thoughtless words at times, I must first and totally forgive any and every one who has ever wronged me. I cannot revisit and hold onto past hurts. I must let them go and ask our Lord to make His face shine upon those I forgive, and to be gracious to them. Our Lord is merciful and gracious to us, long-suffering and abundant in goodness. He calls us to follow Him, and for that, I am forever thankful.

**Hymn: Hallelujah, What a Saviour**

**(Brian Lima)**

[Hallelujah, What a Saviour](#)

**Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

**(Brian Lima)**

[Praise to the Lord, the Almighty](#)

**Bible Reading: *Ephesians 5:18–20***

*be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**Sermon "Sing from your heart to God"**

**(Brian Lima)**

[Read the Sermon](#)

[Watch the Sermon](#)

**Lord's Supper**

**(Brian Lima)**

*1 Corinthians 11:23–26*

*The Lord Jesus...took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

Jesus gave us his life. His gift is a glorious act of love. Jesus said to his disciples, “*Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.*” When we eat and drink today, let us remember the sacrifice of Jesus for us that we would have peace with God and each other.

**Hymn: Now Thank We All Our God**

**(Brian Lima)**

“Let’s allow the Spirit to lift our hearts to the Lord in a song of thankfulness.”

[Now Thank We All Our God](#)

**Benediction**

**(Brian Lima)**

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

*Colossians 3:16–17*