



First Christian Reformed Church of Lynden  
From Generation to Generation for the Glory of God

*Colossians 3:16 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.*

## Scripture

### *Reflections from Scripture on the New Year.*

**Proverbs 3:5-6** Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
and do not lean on your own understanding.  
In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

**Proverbs 23:17-18** Let not your heart envy sinners,  
but continue in the fear of the Lord all the day.  
Surely there is a future, and your hope will not be cut off.

**Isaiah 40:30-31** Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted;  
but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;  
they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

**Isaiah 43:18-19** Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old.  
Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

**Jeremiah 29:11-12** For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil,  
to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you.

**Lamentations 3:22-24** The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;  
his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.  
“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

**Habakkuk 1:5** Look among the nations, and see; wonder and be astounded.  
For I am doing a work in your days that you would not believe if told.

**II Corinthians 5:17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold,  
the new has come.

**Ephesians 4:22-24** Put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through  
deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the  
likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

**Philippians 3:13-14** Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting  
what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the  
upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**Colossians 3:17** Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving  
thanks to God the Father through him.

**Revelation 21:5** He who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said,  
“Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

## **Song**

*Psalm 59:16 But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.*

[You can Google the hymn to hear it if you would like to sing along.]

### ***The Old Year Now Has Passed Away***

(to the tune of Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun)

The old year now has passed away;  
We thank you, O our God, today  
That you have kept us through the year  
When danger and distress were near.

We pray you, O eternal Son,  
Who with the Father reigns as one,  
To guard and rule your Christendom  
Through all the ages yet to come.

Take not your saving Word away,  
Which lights and cheers our souls each day.  
Abide with us and keep us free  
From error and hypocrisy.

Oh, help us to forsake all sin,  
A new and holier life begin!  
Forgive the old year's sins, and bless  
The new year with true happiness,

Wherein as Christians we may live  
Or die in peace that you can give,  
To rise again when you will come  
And enter your eternal home.

There shall we thank you and adore  
With all the angels evermore.  
Lord Jesus Christ, increase our faith  
To praise your name through life and death.

("The Old Year Now Has Passed Away" Words by Johann Steurlein, trans. by Catherine Winkworth, Public Domain CCLI# 358926 Streaming License #20317932)

## **Prayer**

*II Chronicles 7:14 If my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

### ***A Prayer for the New Year***

A prayer from The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers.

O Lord,  
Length of days does not profit me  
except the days are passed in Your presence,  
in Your service, to Your glory.  
Give me a grace that precedes, follows, guides,  
sustains, sanctifies, aids every hour,  
that I may not be one moment apart from You,  
but may rely on Your Spirit  
to supply every thought,  
speak in every word,

direct every step,  
prosper every work,  
build up every spark of faith,  
and give me a desire  
to show forth Your praise;  
testify Your love,  
advance Your kingdom.

I launch my boat on the unknown waters of this year,  
with You, O Father as my harbor,  
You, O Son, at my helm,  
You O Holy Spirit, filling my sails.  
Guide me to heaven with my loins girt,  
my lamp burning,  
my ear open to Your calls,  
my heart full of love,  
my soul free.

Give me Your grace to sanctify me,  
Your comforts to cheer,  
Your wisdom to teach,  
Your right hand to guide,  
Your counsel to instruct,  
Your law to judge,  
Your presence to stabilize.  
May Your fear by my awe,  
Your triumphs my joy.