**A SERVICE AT THE NEW YEAR**

**Call to Worship**

Those 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.

**Scripture suggestions**

Psalm 23

Psalm 51

Psalm 121

Lamentations 3:22-24

Romans 8

Romans 12

Philippians 3

Philippians 4

**Hymn Suggestions from the 1997 Book of Praise**

808 – *Come in, come in, New Year*

809 – *All beautiful THE march of days*

810 – *Now greet the swiftly changing year*

811 – *Standing at the portal*

812 – *Glory to God*

**Prayer of Adoration, Confession, and Assurance of Pardon**

Gracious God, with you, one day is like a thousand years.

You are the keeper of promises.

You are the keeper of all life and all souls.

You are the One who watches and who waits,

the One who remembers and who forgives.

You are present in all times and places and

you move in our hearts and minds.

Give us a sense of your presence among us as we gather

to wait,

to watch,

and to and celebrate the coming of a new year in your grace.

Loving God, you make everything new and forgive the sins of our past, even when we cannot. We confess our fear at the unknown and the time ahead. Forgive us the good we have not done, the love we have not shared, and time we have misspent. And now in silence we name those things that you already know but that we find difficult to acknowledge or name…

Forgive what we have been,

help us amend what we are,

and direct who we shall be and

set us free to see your hand moving through all of life.

Amen

Hear and believe the good news; anyone who is in Christ is a new creation; the old life is gone and the new life has come. Know that you are forgiven and forgive one another and be at peace.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

God of our lives, the beginning and the end, the first and the last; you are faithful in all the seasons of life.

We thank you for your goodness towards us and for your grace, which has sustained us.

We praise you for the gifts of life and vitality,

for family, friends and loved ones, and for opportunities to serve you and one another.

Above all, we thank you for Christ, who is the foundation of our hope and the one who leads us in your way. May your purposes be seen in the living out of our lives, and your grace and hope shine bright in this world.

We ask no other prayer, other than that we would feel your presence and see you at work in the world in the new year and in all the years of our lives.

 Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.