

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN, WALHALLA!

Sunday, January 3, 2021 — Live at 10:00 am on Facebook



New Year's Service of Release and Renewal

(Scripture readings and songs are on the next page)

GATHERING MUSIC FOR MEDITATION — "Jesus, Name Above All Names"

PRAYER OF RELEASE (spoken together)

*Holy and Merciful God, Thank you for this new day, this new year, its beauty and its light.
Thank you for my chance to begin again.*

My desire to release all that no longer serves Your purpose has come.

I turn to You, my source, and surrender! I surrender my thoughts of judgment.

Teach me to love as You do.

I surrender my belief in guilt. Teach me to see the innocence in all.

Cast out all anger . . . Teach me to be kind.

Cast out fear of all things . . . It has no purpose.

Cast out my worry . . . Teach me Joy.

Cast out my lack of forgiveness, my prejudices and my judgments . . .

Teach me understanding.

I surrender all resentments, manipulations and gossip.

Make my actions what You would have them be.

Cast out all temptations and pride. Teach me purity and humility.

Remove, Dear Lord, the darkness . . . Surround me with your Light.

Cast out my hardness . . . Teach me to be gentle.

All the resources I have thrown away . . . Teach me wisdom.

All the selfishness I have had . . . Teach me to share and to be generous.

For the times I felt I was not a good parent or child; Show me that love is enough.

For all the time I have not spent focused on you Dear Lord, give me Thy Word.

To you, Precious and Loving God, I give you ALL.

*I surrender this, and all things that I have attempted to handle on my own, forgetting that
YOU carry our burdens. I release all to you...knowing that I never walk alone.*

I lift to you my past. Amen.

SONG OF RELEASE — "SPIRIT Song"

DWELLING IN THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING — Jeremiah 31:7-14

THE GOSPEL READING — John 1:1-18

REFLECTION — Pastor Rachel Connelly

HYMN OF RESPONSE — “Love Has Come”

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

After each petition of the prayers:

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Listen to your children.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

REWEVAL WRITING AND BURNING

PRAYER OF RENEWAL

Holy Lord, as we begin a New Year, may Your spirit go with us.

May our work in the world be a vehicle for your love.

May it fulfill a divine mission. Show us how to love and forgive.

2021 IS a new year, may it not be darkened, but always be surrounded by Your light.

May we begin anew with new creativity, new love and new power.

Show us the art of leadership. Show us the art of service.

Make me a blessing on others and on myself.

We are willing to receive an expanded set of options that You, dear God, might work miracles in our lives.

May we receive a future unlike the past, for others and ourselves.

We open our mind to possibilities that we have not dreamed of,

to forces of life we have not allowed in, and to realms of joy we have hardly imagined.

And now we place all outcome in Your hands. May our efforts gladden You.

May our work please You. We are here only to do Your bidding, that we might feel lighter, live healthier and awaken each morning and feel that we are used on behalf of something glorious. In Jesus Name...Amen.



SONG OF RENEWAL — “Sanctuary/I Exalt Thee”

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG — “Go Tell It On the Mountain”

SHARING THE PEACE

Donated Poinsettias may be picked up at the church during normal business hours—9:00 to 1:00.

