

JANUARY 1, 2022
NEW YEAR'S EVE,
NEW YEAR'S DAY



A time for new beginnings.

NEW YEAR'S BIBLE READINGS

Take time to read and reflect on these Bible passages as part of your New Year's celebration.

Friday	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13 Revelation 21:1-6a	For everything there is a season New heaven and new earth
Saturday	Psalms 8 Matthew 25:31-46	God-given dignity to humans The great judgment

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR NEW YEAR'S

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.

Revelation 21:1 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer the New Year:

Almighty God, you who make all things new, help us to begin this new year and each day in confidence that your steadfast love endures forever through Jesus Christ, the Alpha and the Omega. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may we with this meal celebrate your goodness and your promise of the time when death will be no more through Jesus, the Lamb of God. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you and be with you all the days of your life.



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HYMN FOR NEW YEAR'S

Go Tell It on the Mountain

NEW YEAR'S MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What is something you are glad to leave behind in 2021?
- What is something you hope for in the new year?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Revelation 21:1-6a.

In Revelation 21 God's victory is seen as a new beginning. The victory is not the popularized "rapture" of departing from God's creation, but affirming God's ongoing work of creating a new heaven and earth, right here for us to enjoy. In the meantime, we trust in God's good work to happen in our lives and for all of creation. A new year is a good time to recall what we value and hope for: God's creative and gracious power that will make all things new and, in the process, one day wipe away every tear, and put an end to death itself. In 2022, let that message bring comfort and strength for the message of Revelation is "trustworthy and true." It is the message of the all-powerful One, "the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

Discuss: What do you hope for based on God's promised vision for you and all creation?

Pray: **God of heaven and earth, give us faith to trust in your promises, to take away our sadness and make all things new through Christ Jesus, the Lamb who was slain and begins his reign. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the New Year's Bible Readings and theme, how might you help someone experience a new beginning in their life?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The eighth day after Jesus' birth, Mary and Joseph, according to Jewish tradition, presented him at the temple. It was on this day that Jesus was given his name (Luke 2:21). This name was told to Mary by an angel before he was conceived (Luke 1:31). The Festival of the Holy Name of Jesus is celebrated on January 1. At the beginning of each new year, people want to make resolutions that change the way they live. For Christians, the daily experience of repentance and giving thanks through prayer for God's love through Jesus Christ can be life-changing. Think or talk about ways you can commit to daily prayer in the new year. Then say this blessing:

In the name of Jesus, the Alpha and the Omega, may God bless you.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org