

A New Year Hymn

(based on Psalm 39:5)

Words: © Tom Gordon 2021; Suggested tune: "Rhuddlan" [CH4 264]

The beginning of a year is a special marker in our journey of life. We know it's "just another day", or the "click of a clock". But it's more significant than that, for it marks our progress and our measurement of time, and allows us to review the past and be hopeful for the future. So, as we enter a new year, perhaps we might do well to pause, look around us and give thanks.

New Year dawning ... what a morning!
giving January its birth;
happy people, joyful revellers
celebrating, full of mirth;
parties starting; fireworks flashing,
east to west, o'er all the earth.

New Year turning ... looking backwards
o'er the span of days gone by;
places seen and people greeted;
schemes that worked or went awry;
lessons learned; events remembered;
lots to teach or mystify.

New Year starting ... reaching forward
into all that's yet unknown;
resolutions; big decisions;
times to share or be alone;
plans to make; routines to follow;
sins for which we must atone.

New Year promise ... God is constant;
as He has been in the past,
so His timeless presence gives us
hope and strength for which we ask.
For His love, from start to finish,
is a Love that's made to last.

New Year with us ... so your people
gather now to bring our praise,
and to pray to You, whose handbreadth
is the measure of our days:
'God be with us; bless us; keep us;
Hold us close to You always.'