

COVENANT LUTHERAN CHURCH Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Thanksgiving Day November 28, 2024

Our Mission... Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to the changing of lives through Jesus Christ by helping others find salvation in Jesus Christ.

AS WE GATHER At one time, "Thankful" was a proper and common name for girls and women. It served as a testimony to the goodness of God throughout that individual's life. In his "Song of Thanks" recorded in First Chronicles, King David exclaimed "Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples!" (16:8). No matter what personal name we may carry throughout our lives, we can individually express our great thankfulness to God for all the blessings that we receive day by day and season after season.

RINGING OF THE BELLS AND WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 54:6; 79:13; 136:1; 145:10*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, **People:** for His steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: All Your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD,

People: and all Your saints shall bless You!

Pastor: I will give thanks to Your name, O LORD, for it is good.

People: We, Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You

forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise.

HYMN "Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness" LSB 788; stz. 1-4

Forgive us, Lord, for shallow thankfulness, For dull content with warmth and sheltered care, For songs of praise for food and harvest press, While of Your richer gifts we're unaware: Teach us to thank You, Lord, for love and grace, For life and vision, for a purpose clear, For Christ Your Son, and for each human face That shows Your message ever new and near.

Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise, For words that speak at variance with deeds; Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways Unmindful of a broken brother's needs:

Teach us, O Lord, true thankfulness divine, That gives as Christ gave, never counting cost, That knows no barrier of "yours" and "mine," Assured that only what's withheld is lost.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION Philippians 4:8, 19

Pastor: Although we are anxious about many things, God's peace comes to us

daily. Let us confess our sins, trusting that for Jesus' sake our heavenly

Father will guard our hearts and minds with His peace.

Silence for reflection on the Word of God and our sinful condition.

Pastor: Brothers and sisters, in today's Epistle, Paul urges, "Whatever is true,

whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is

anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

All: We confess that we have spoken lies, dishonored God's name, judged

people on sight, adopted society's impure values, failed to tend to God's good creation, and forgotten to thank Him for providing all we need from day to day. Heavenly Father, for the sake of Your Son, who did all things well and to whom alone belongs all the praise, we ask You to forgive what is past, graciously strengthen us for this day, and by Your indwelling Spirit move our feet to walk in ways pleasing to

You.

Pastor: Paul was inspired to promise, "God will supply every need of yours

according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus." Our heavenly Father does indeed supply your deepest need. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father

and of the

■ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

LSB 892

Come, ye thankful people, come; Raise the song of harvest home.

All be safely gathered in Ere the winter storms begin;

God, our maker, doth provide For our wants to be supplied.

Come to God's own temple, come; Raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, Fruit unto His praise to yield; Wheat and tares together sown, Unto joy or sorrow grown. First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall appear. Lord of harvest, grant that we Wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His harvest home, From His field shall in that day All offenses purge away, Give His angels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast, But the fruitful ears to store In His garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come To Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in, Free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified, In Thy garner to abide:
Come with all Thine angels, come, Raise the glorious harvest home.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor:

Let us pray... Almighty and eternal God, we adore You as the God and Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus, and with the whole church on earth and all the hosts of heaven we ascribe to You honor and blessing, thanksgiving and praise. Grant that we may with thankful hearts receive Your great mercies and express our gratitude, not only with our lips but also in our lives as we give ourselves to Your service and walk before You in holiness and righteousness all our days. Grant us faith that works in love, hope that never disappoints, kindness that never fails, confidence in You that never wavers, patience that does not grow weary, and courage always ready to confess Christ, that we may live in Your mercy and die in Your peace; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT Deuteronomy 8:1–10 (A call to remember the goodness of the Lord)

8 Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land the Lord promised on oath to your ancestors. ² Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. ³ He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. ⁴ Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years. ⁵ Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the Lord your God disciplines you.

⁶ Observe the commands of the Lord your God, walking in obedience to him and revering him. ⁷ For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with brooks, streams, and deep springs gushing out into the valleys and hills; ⁸ a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; ⁹ a land where bread will not be scarce and you will lack nothing; a land where the rocks are iron and you can dig copper out of the hills.

¹⁰ When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM "I Will Give Thanks to the Lord"

EPISTLE Philippians 4:6–20 (Doing everything with thanksgiving to God)

⁶Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. ⁹ Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰ I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty.

I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

¹⁴ Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. ¹⁵ Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; ¹⁶ for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. ¹⁷ Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. ¹⁸ I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent.

They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰ To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL Psalm 145:15–16; 118:1

Pastor: The eyes of all look to You, O Lord,

People: and You give them their food in due season.

Pastor: You open Your hand

People: and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

People: His steadfast love endures forever.

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 17:11–19 (One leper of ten shows gratitude to Jesus.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹¹ Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance ¹³ and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

¹⁴ When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. ¹⁵ One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶ He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

¹⁷ Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸ Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹ Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED (see inside back cover of the hymnal)

HYMN "Praise and Thanksgiving" LSB 789

Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer For all things living, Created good: Harvest of sown fields, Fruits of the orchard, Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood.

Bless, Lord, the labor We bring to serve You That with our neighbor We may be fed. Sowing or tilling, We would work with You, Harvesting, milling For daily bread.

Father, providing Food for Your children, By Your wise guiding Teach us to share One with another, So that, rejoicing With us, all others May know Your care.

SERMON "Give Thanks To, Not Just For"

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

People:

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people

according to their needs, giving thanks to the Lord, for He is good... Gracious God, gratefully we remember Your bountiful gifts to all of us. We remember Your many acts of kindness to Your people through all ages. We bless You for the orderly progression of the seasons and thank You for the bountiful harvest of the fruits of the earth. We thank You.

for Your steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray for the church, here and around the world, giving thanks for the

joyful message of the Gospel as it is faithfully proclaimed from generation

to generation.

Pastor: Almighty God, we thank You for the church, where Your Holy Spirit gathers

us as Your people to receive Your gifts and celebrate Your goodness. Bless the work of missionaries, teachers, health workers, and all others who give

witness to Your unchanging love. We thank You,

People: for Your steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray for the world in which we live, giving thanks for the amazing

place in which we live and asking that we may readily share the bounty we

receive from the hand of the Lord.

Caring God, we thank You for the world in which we live as together we pray for the community of nations around the globe. Continue to give us all things needful and grant that we may be good stewards of the earth. Grant that our homes be places of love and care and our neighborhoods be centers of welcome and compassion. We thank You,

People: for Your steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray for those people who are blessings to us in our homes, in our

communities, and beyond, remembering our local emergency workers, our national defenders, and the many workers in the agricultural fields across

our nation and beyond.

People:

Giver of all good gifts, we thank You for the faithful labor of people living out their vocations for our welfare. Bless the military forces of our nation, those stationed both at home and abroad, who selflessly serve to defend our nation in challenging times and who guarantee our safety in times of peace. We remember those whose labor brings a rich variety of food to our

tables in this and in every season. We thank You, for Your steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: Let us pray for those with special needs for compassion at this time, that they may know the care of the Lord and our care as well. Let us also bring

thankfully to mind those who have completed their earthly journey and now

rejoice in the Lord's eternal kingdom.

Lord of time and of eternity, bless and keep those with special concerns and needs including the ill, the hospitalized, and the homebound, those who sorrow, the unemployed and underemployed. We remember especially . . . Grant that we find purpose and blessing in assisting those who need our concern and our care. On this Day of Thanksgiving, we also recall those no longer among us on earth, who now rejoice in the glorious light of Your heavenly kingdom.

Pastor: May we be inspired by their faithful witness and seek to be Your agents of

blessing during our earthly lives as we look forward to that time when we

rejoice together and give You eternal thanks and praise. We thank You,

People: for Your steadfast love endures forever. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our

prayer. Amen.

OFFERING (Please sign the Friendship Register.)

▼ SACRAMENT ▼

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all

places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You

and saying:

SANCTUS "Holy, Holy, Holy"

LSB, p. 208

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray...

All: 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor:

As God's thankful people, we praise God the Son for His work of redemption and for His blessed example of giving thanks. In the familiar "Words of Our Lord" at the time of Holy Communion, we are reminded that when Jesus was at the Table with the disciples in the Upper Room on the night He was betrayed, He gave thanks. Jesus gave thanks as part of His worship life, and He lived His daily life with gratefulness, interacting graciously with friends and followers alike.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, . . .

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

AGNUS DEI "Lamb of God" LSB, p. 210

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS "Now Thank We All Our God"

LSB 895

Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices, Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices; Who from our mothers' arms Has blest us on our way With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.

Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us, With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed And free us from all ills In this world and the next!

All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given, The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven, The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore; For thus it was, is now, And shall be ever more. LSB 785

HYMN

"For the Fruits of His Creation"

LSB 894

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; In grateful devotion our tribute we bring. We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You; We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You; Through trial and tempest our guide You have been. When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us, And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise. With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us. To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" LSB 805

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray... Almighty God, You crown the fields with Your blessing and

permit us to gather the fruits of the earth. As stewards of Your creation, may we receive Your gifts in humble thankfulness and share Your bounty with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns

with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you

and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ₹ give you

peace.

People: Amen.

For the fruits of His creation, Thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev'ry nation, Thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safe-keeping, Thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, Thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

Alter Flowers have been given to the glory of God by Tom and Jane Buck as a prayer of thanksgiving for all of God's Hessings.

The Thanksgiving Offering will be given to A Place of Refuge.

Preacher: Rev. Steven Voigt
Organist: Mr. Bill Laesch

A/V Coordinator: Mrs. Alyssa Gottsacker Worship Assistants: Tom Buck & Dale Meyer

Greeters: Jerry & Judy Anson