



THANKSGIVING

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2020 6:30 PM

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

INTRODUCTION

As our nation takes time to offer thanks for the harvest and many households come together for a festive meal, we gather as God's people to recognize that the source of all good things is God. We offer thanks to God for the bounty of this land and seek to share these riches with all in need.

PRELUDE AND PREPARATION

*Prepare your heart for worship: read the introduction, peruse the bulletin, find the scripture readings in the pew Bible, and focus your thoughts on all you have to be thankful for. You may use this prayer: **O LORD our God, You have again brought us to Your house of prayer to praise Your goodness and ask for Your grace: Accept now, in Your endless mercy, the sacrifice of our worship and thanksgiving, and grant unto us all such requests as may be wholesome for us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing— He
2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing, Or -
3 We all do ex - tol Thee, Thou lead - er tri - umphant, And

1 chas - tens and has - tens His will to make known; The
2 dain - ing, main - tain - ing His king - dom di - vine; So
3 pray that Thou still our de - fend - er wilt be; Let

1 wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing: Sing
2 from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning: Thou,
3 Thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion: Thy

1 prais - es to His name— He for - gets not His own.
2 Lord, wast at our side— all glo - ry be Thine.
3 name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free! A - men.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

His steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon His name.

Make known His deeds among the peoples!

God blesses us with gifts of love:

with food and clothing, home and family.

God blesses us with daily work:

and all we need from day to day.

God protects us in time of danger:

and guards us from every evil.

God calls us into relationship with Him:

and forms us into one holy people,

the Church of Jesus Christ in this place.

Therefore shall we offer thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

O Lord our God, we will give thanks to You forever.

GATHERING HYMN *(Please rise.)*

← *“We Gather Together” (Maj # 81 - favorite)*

INVOCATION

P: Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Before God, our rock and our refuge, let us keep silence, and then confess our sin.

(Please kneel. Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Most merciful God, **C: You know our failings better than we do; our sins are revealed in the light of Your face. Our days and years pass by; the things we trust fade like grass. Be gracious to us, O God. Guide us again to the water of life, and renew in us the grace of holy baptism; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.**

P: You are all children of the light and of the day; you are God’s children now. In the mercy of God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake, God forgives you all your sin. With all the faithful in heaven and on earth, rejoice and be glad!

C: AMEN.

GREETING *(Please rise.)*

P: May the hope to which God has called you, the power of God at work in Christ, and the Spirit of wisdom and revelation be with you all.
C: And also with you.

WE PRAISE GOD'S NAME

HYMN OF PRAISE *"Let All Things Now Living"*

(Maj # 78 - favorite)

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 His law he en - forc - es, the stars in their cours - es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the

still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim him di - vine.

God's ban - ners are o'er us, his light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -

fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise

till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To

for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892-1980 Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray together: **C: Almighty Father, Your generous goodness comes to us new each day. By the work of Your Spirit lead us to acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

PRAISE SONG “How Great Thou Art” (Maj # 111 - favorite)



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der con - sid - er
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad - o -



thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, “My God, how great thou art!”

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989 Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune

(Please sit.)

RESPONSIVE READING.... Psalm 65 (*congregation: indented*)

Praise awaits You, O God, in Zion;

to You our vows will be fulfilled.

O You Who hear prayer,

to You all men will come.

When we were overwhelmed by sins,

You forgave our transgressions.

Blessed are those You choose and bring near to live in Your courts!

**We are filled with the good things of Your house,
of Your holy temple.**

You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness,

O God our Savior,

the hope of all the ends of the earth

and of the farthest seas,

Who formed the mountains by Your power,

having armed Yourself with strength,

Who stilled the roaring of the seas,

the roaring of their waves,

and the turmoil of the nations.

Those living far away fear Your wonders;

where morning dawns and evening fades

You call forth songs of joy.

You care for the land and water it;

You enrich it abundantly.

The streams of God are filled with water

to provide the people with grain,

for so You have ordained it.

You drench its furrows and level its ridges;

You soften it with showers and bless its crops.

You crown the year with Your bounty,

and Your carts overflow with abundance.

The grasslands of the desert overflow;

the hills are clothed with gladness.

The meadows are covered with flocks

and the valleys are mantled with grain;

they shout for joy and sing.

PRAISE SONG “*All Things Bright and Beautiful*”

(Maj # 77 / WOV # 767 - favorite - Cecil F. Alexander) →

Unison

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, All crea - tures great and small,

Fine

All things wise and won - der - ful; The Lord God made them all.

1. Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, Each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2. The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, The riv - er run - ning by,
 3. The cold wind in the win - ter, The pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
 4. He gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell

D. C. al Fine

He made their glow - ing col - ors, He made their ti - ny wings.
 The sun - set, and the morn - ing That bright - ens up the sky.
 The ' ripe fruits in the gar - den: He made them, ev - ery one.
 How great is God Al - might - y, Who has made all things well.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHILDREN'S CHAT

FIRST READING....Deuteronomy 8:6-18.....p. 287

P: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING....2 Corinthians 9:6-15.....p. 1803

P: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(Please rise.)*

“Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart” (Henry Smith)

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,
give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.
And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say, “I am
rich,” be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 17th Chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

GOSPELLuke 17:11-19.....p. 1627

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C:** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HOMILY *(Please sit.)*

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(Please stand following the sermon.)

P: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C: **AMEN.**

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Praise and Thanksgiving, Father, We Offer” (LBW # 409)



1 Praise and thanks - giv - ing, Fa - ther, we of - fer for all things
2 Bless, Lord, the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by your wise
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -

liv - ing, cre - at - ed good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where all o - bey you, no one will

or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; in your love's sway you nour - ish the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt. Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father, Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and was born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. AMEN.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Please kneel.)*

After each petition:

L: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

C: His steadfast love endures forever.

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.

WE ARE SENT INTO GOD'S WORLD

COMMISSION

P: We began our worship with thanksgiving. I call on you now to move out into the world with thanksgiving.

**C: O give thanks to our God Who is so good,
Whose love stands firm forever.**

P: Let thanksgiving enhance the joys you experience,
let thanksgiving transcend the pains you may suffer,
let thanksgiving sweeten the duties you must perform,
let thanksgiving underpin even the griefs you may have to endure.

**C: O give thanks to our God Who is so good,
Whose love stands firm forever.**

BLESSING

P: May the Lord of all creation shower His blessings and favor upon you.

C: May the Lord of the harvest grace our Thanksgiving table with His presence and fill our loved ones with peace.

P: May the Lord of salvation guide you all your days until you come into the joys of His eternal kingdom.

**C: And may almighty God, Father, $\dagger\dagger$ Son and Holy Spirit,
bless us now and forever. AMEN.**

(Please rise.)

SENDING HYMN “*Now Thank We All Our God*” (Maj # 333) →

PASSING THE PEACE

L: As we leave to serve the Risen Lord in the power of His Spirit, let us share with one another some of the blessings of peace we have received. The peace of the Lord be with you.

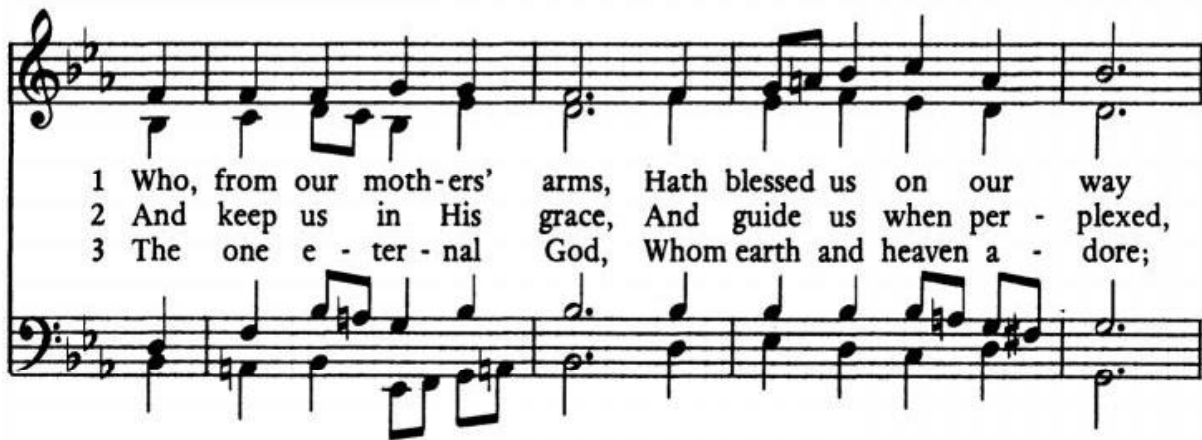
C: And also with you.



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,
2 O may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,



1 Who wondrous things hath done, In whom His world rejoices;
2 With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us;
3 The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven,



1 Who, from our mothers' arms, Hath blessed us on our way
2 And keep us in His grace, And guide us when perplexed,
3 The one eternal God, Whom earth and heaven adore;



1 With countless gifts of love, And still is ours to-day.
2 And free us from all ills In this world and the next.
3 For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

THANKSGIVING EVE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2020, 6:30 PM

SERVANTS OF THE LORD THIS WEEK

ALTAR GUILD: Alyce Stein/Patty Stein

SOUND SYSTEM: Ken Yoxheimer

LIVE STREAM: Jan Stryker

LECTOR: Bob Harwick

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE SPONSORED BY:

Holy Cross

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CHURCH STAFF

Rev. David L. Brown, *Pastor* † Ruthann Kistler, *Christian Ed. Dir.*

Nancy Cook, *Music Director* † Lynden Stryker, *Secretary*

Jim Steiner, *Sexton* † Karen Steiner, *Pre-school*

Lisa Wechsler, *Bookkeeper* † Glade Schroeter, *Webmaster*

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship - 9:00 AM & 10:30 AM † Sunday School - 10:30 AM

(*Holy Communion 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays & Major Feasts*)

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and *Thanksgiving Day Resources* written by Bruce Prewer