

ZION

Lutheran Church



Service of Thanksgiving November 20, 2022

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2022 Thanksgiving Service of Readings and Hymns

November 20, 2022 3:00 p.m.

Zion Lutheran Church

Presiding Minister – Rev. Willie Rosin

Music Minister – Charles Potter

WORSHIP NOTES:

All responses marked in bold are said by the whole congregation

The + indicates the congregation stands as they are able.

PRELUDE	<i>Come, Ye Thankful People, Come</i>	<i>arr. Charles Callahan</i>	Charles Potter
	<i>We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing</i>	<i>arr. Gerhard Krapf</i>	

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

‡ GATHERING ‡

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

BELL CALLING US TO WORSHIP

INTROIT	<i>Now Thank We All Our God</i>	<i>arr. Jason W. Krug</i>	Zion Bell Choir
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Proclamation of the National Day of Thanksgiving:

In the first year of the presidency of George Washington in 1789, a Day of National Thanksgiving was set aside for the last Thursday of November. Since that time, Americans have celebrated this day in remembrance of all the blessings which God has poured down upon this nation and her citizens.

In the presidential proclamation for Thanksgiving Day in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln had this to say:

"It is the duty of nations as well as of citizens to owe their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord....

"We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

"It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens."

+ GATHERING HYMN - ELW #693 "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield;
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har-vest home;
4 E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi-nal har-vest home.



All be safe-ly gath-ered in ere the win-ter storms be-gin.
wheat and tares to-geth-er sown, un-to joy or sor-row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of-fens-es purge a-way;
Gath-er then thy peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our mak-er, doth pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap-pear.
give his an-gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for-ev-er pu-ri-fied, in thy gar-ner to a-bide.



Come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.
Lord of har-vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit-ful ears to store in his gar-ner ev-er-more.
Come, with all thine an-gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home!

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

+ CALL TO WORSHIP FOR THANKSGIVING

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name.

Make known God's 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.

+ GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every 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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Reading from History: *The Mayflower Compact, 1620*

In the name of God, Amen.

We, whose names are underwritten, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign lord, King James, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, king, defender of the faith etc.:

Having undertaken for the glory of God and advancement of the Christian faith, and honor of our king and country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia;

Do by these presents, solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God and of one another, covenant and combine ourselves together into a civil body politic, for our better ordering and preservation, and furtherance of the ends aforesaid;

And by virtue hereof do enact, constitute, and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions, and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the Colony; unto which we promise all due submission and obedience.

In witness whereof we have hereunder subscribed our names at Cape Cod, the eleventh of November, in the year of the reign of our sovereign lord, King James of England, France and Ireland the eighteenth, and of Scotland the fifty-fourth. Anno Domini 1620.

RESPONSE:

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord

My spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

For he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed.

The Almighty has done great things for me.

And holy is his name. (Luke 1:46-49)

‡ WORD ‡

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Moses reminds the Israelites of God's promises and the ways in which God has guided them through the wilderness and provided all that they need.

"When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess and you possess it and settle in it, 2 you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. 3 You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.' 4 When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, 5 you shall make this response before the LORD your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. 6 When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, 7 we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. 8 The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; 9 and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. 10 So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.' You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. 11 Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM 100

¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

² **Serve the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.**

³ Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his;^[a]
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ **Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.**

Give thanks to him; bless his name.

⁵ For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever
and his faithfulness to all generations.

SECOND READING Philippians 4:4-9

Paul urges the Christians at Philippi to rejoice, to be thankful, and to dwell on everything worthy of praise.

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about [c] these things. 9 As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

+ GOSPEL

John 6:25-35

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord

The day after he multiplies bread to feed five thousand people, Jesus is pursued by the crowds clamoring for more bread. Recalling the image of manna in the wilderness, Jesus promises to provide the true bread from heaven that will never fail. Jesus himself is that bread of life.

25 When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" 26 Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate your fill of the loaves. 27 Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." 28 Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" 29 Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." 30 So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? 31 Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' " 32 Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." 34 They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." 35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

Now Thank We All Our God

ELW 840



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

LITANY FOR THANKSGIVING

As the pioneers of the Plymouth colony gathered around the feasting table with native Americans in 1621 to give thanks for all that they had been given by our Bountiful Provider, so we too gather on this Eve of Thanksgiving Day to offer thanks for all those gifts which the Lord has seen fit to give us, especially for our country, our state and our town.

Almighty and Generous God, we bring before you, in our hearts and on our Thanksgiving table, the gifts and blessings which you have given us this year. And, in humble gratitude, we give you thanks for them. We thank you as well for the blessings which come to us through the peace and prosperity of our nation, our state and our town.

We praise you, and we thank you, O God.

We acknowledge that as we have greatly received, so are we responsible. Therefore, O Lord, keep us from being unfaithful in our lives as citizens of this nation and as recipients of all that past generations of Americans have bequeathed to us. Help us to be worthy of our ancestors and of their God.

Help us, O God, to be faithful.

To all the high desires of the pioneers and prophets,

Help us, O God, to be faithful.

To their belief in the possibilities of a common people:

Help us, O God, to be faithful.

To their passion for freedom and their readiness to die in its defense:

Help us, O God, to be faithful.

To their scorn of tyranny, and their trust in men and women to rule themselves:

Help us, O God, to be faithful.

To their vision of a human commonwealth in which the people of many lands may share:

Help us, O God, to be faithful.

To their release from the prejudice of an old world and their will to build a new one:

Help us, O God, to be faithful.

As our ancestors trusted in you, O Lord, and you delivered them:

Keep us ever close to you.

Lord of the nations, guide our people by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give us what outward prosperity may be your will, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

+ LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

+ WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace...

Peace be with you.

‡ OFFERING ‡

We joyfully return what God has first given us; our selves, our time, and our possessions

OFFERTORY

We Gather Together to Ask the Lord's Blessing arr. Healey Willam

Charles Potter

+ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our creator, you give us all we are, all we have, all we bring, and all we need. Draw us together around your table with all your saints on earth and in your eternal home. Let us eat and drink your promise of new life, that we might be your promise to the world, spoken in Jesus' name.

Amen.

+ BENEDICTION

Signed and sealed by the Holy Spirit,

you are Christ's message of love for this troubled world, written by the same Sender.

May our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ☩ comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

O Beautiful, for Spacious Skies

ELW 888

1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 3 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years

for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain:
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life:
 thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears:

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - 'ry flaw,

and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea.
 till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - 'ry gain di - vine.
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law.

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God arr. Max Reger

Charles Potter

Acknowledgments: Pars of the liturgy for today were written by the Rev. Thomas L. Weitzel, a pastor of the ELCA. The Litany for Thanksgiving was reprinted from *The Experimental Liturgy Book*, R.F. Hoey ed., Seabury Press 1969, p.170 amended by TLW. The closing prayer of the Litany is reprinted from the *Lutheran Book of Worship*, Augsburg Pub. 1978, p.40.

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