

# New Life Ev. Lutheran Church

Lake Zurich, IL

*...rooted in the word, growing in faith, reaching out to our uprooted world.*

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## **Thanksgiving Eve** **November 27, 2019**

*A warm welcome to those who are visiting us this evening. You may hang your coat in the entryway of the church or on the coat rack downstairs. The bathrooms are located in the basement of this building. Before you go home today, please sign our guest book located on the podium in the entryway. Also, supper will be served in the basement after our service this evening. We invite you to join us for something to eat and drink.*

*Our lower level is wired for sound. If you need to take your child out during the service, you won't miss any of the sermon.*

*In the unlikely event of an emergency during this evening's service, you can exit the building using the main entryway or the exit to the right of the chancel. Our building does have a fire alarm system that is wired directly to the fire department. Remember, we follow the "Run, Hide, Fight" response in an emergency.*

*Before Service Prayer:* Lord God Almighty, we offer thanks to You for the rich blessings You have so generously given. Conquer our human pride, which tries to rob You of glory. We try to convince ourselves that our own creativity, our own ingenuity, our own management, and our own wisdom are the sources of all these blessings. Forgive us for this arrogance. By Your Spirit lead us to recognize that You have given us every good thing, both physical and spiritual. We pray in Your name. Amen.

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*Pastor's Welcome*

## All Our Wants and Needs Supplying

Honor the Lord: “Come, You Thankful People, Come”

**Come, you thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.**

**All is safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin.**

**God, our maker, does 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. (CW 613 v. 1,2)**

Opening Sentences:

P: Honor the Lord with your substance, and with the first fruits of all your increase.

**C: God opens His hand, and satisfies the desire of every living thing.**

P: So will your barns be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow.

**C: Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights.**

P: Honor the Lord with your substance, and with the first fruits of all your increase.

**C: God opens the windows of heaven, and floods us with blessing after blessing.**

P: So will your barns be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow.

**C: What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?**

P: Honor the Lord with your substance, and with the first fruits of all your increase.

**C: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; my cup runs over.**

P: So will your barns be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow.

**C: The Lord is good, His mercy is everlasting and His faithfulness endures forever.**

P: Honor the Lord with your substance, and with the first fruits of all your increase.

**C: So will your barns be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow.**

P: “Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”

**C: For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son.**

The Prayer of the Day

P: Thank You for this day set aside to give thanks to You for all that You supply to us. We are grateful for giving us the basic necessities of food and drink, house and home, clothing and shoes and all that sustains us in this life. Yet, You do not stop there. You enrich our lives with things we want as well, things that bring us joy and gladness, things that bring us comfort and peace. Let us this day not take for granted Your abundant generosity to us for the gifts of all our wants and needs supplied by You.

C: Amen.

Hymn Response:

**Even so, Lord, quickly come to Your final harvest home.  
Gather all Your people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,  
There, forever purified, in Your garner to abide.  
Come, with all Your angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home! ( CW 613 v.3)**

The First Lesson: **Deuteronomy 28:1-12** (*As long as the children of Israel keep God's commands, Moses promises they will be blessed abundantly as they prepare to enter the Promised Land.*)

<sup>1</sup> If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all His commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. <sup>2</sup> All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God:

<sup>3</sup> You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country.

<sup>4</sup> The fruit of your womb will be blessed, and the crops of your land and the young of your livestock—the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks.

<sup>5</sup> Your basket and your kneading trough will be blessed.

<sup>6</sup> You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD will grant that the enemies who rise up against you will be defeated before you. They will come at you from one direction but flee from you in seven.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to. The LORD your God will bless you in the land He is giving you.

<sup>9</sup> The LORD will establish you as His holy people, as He promised you on oath, if you keep the commands of the LORD your God and walk in obedience to Him. <sup>10</sup> Then all the peoples on earth will see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they will fear you. <sup>11</sup> The LORD will grant you abundant prosperity—in the fruit of your womb, the young of your livestock and the crops of your ground—in the land He swore to your ancestors to give you.

<sup>12</sup> The LORD will open the heavens, the storehouse of His bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. (NIV 2011)

The Psalmody: “Sing to the Lord of Harvest”

**Sing to the Lord of harvest, sing songs of love and praise;  
With joyful hearts and voices your alleluias raise.  
By Him the rolling seasons in fruitful order move;  
Sing to the Lord of harvest a joyous song of love.**

**God makes the clouds drop fatness, the deserts bloom and spring.  
The hills leap up in gladness, the valleys laugh and sing.  
God fills them with His fullness, all things with large increase;  
He crowns the year with goodness, with plenty and with peace.**

**Bring to His sacred altar the gifts His goodness gave,  
The golden sheaves of harvest, the souls Christ died to save.  
Your heart lay down before Him when at His feet you fall,  
And with your lives adore Him who gave His life for all. (CW 614)**

The Second Lesson: **2 Corinthians 9:6-12** (*God’s people are free to be generous because we trust in God’s ability to bless abundantly.*)

<sup>6</sup>Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. <sup>7</sup>Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. <sup>8</sup>And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. <sup>9</sup>As it is written:

“They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor;  
their righteousness endures forever.”

<sup>10</sup>Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. <sup>11</sup>You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

<sup>12</sup>This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. (NIV 2011)

Hymn Response:

**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. (CW 609 v. 1)**

The Gospel: **Matthew 6:25-33** (*Worry about the stuff of life? Really?*)

<sup>25</sup> “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? <sup>27</sup> Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?

<sup>28</sup> “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. <sup>29</sup> Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. <sup>30</sup> If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will He not much more clothe you—you of little faith? <sup>31</sup> So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ <sup>32</sup> For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. <sup>33</sup> But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (NIV 2011)

Hymn Response:

**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! (CW 609 v.3)**

The Sermon Text: **Proverbs 3:9-10**

<sup>9</sup> Honor the LORD with your wealth,  
with the firstfruits of all your crops;  
<sup>10</sup> then your barns will be filled to overflowing,  
and your vats will brim over with new wine.

The Sermon

Hymn: **“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”**

*(Sung by the Choir)*  
*There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea;*  
*There’s kindness in His justice which is more than liberty.*  
*There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt than up in heav’n*  
*There is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgment giv’n.*

**(Sung by the Choir and Congregation)**

**There is welcome for the sinner, and a promised grace made good  
There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in His blood.  
There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this;  
There is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.**

*(Sung by the Choir)*

*For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.  
There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;  
There is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.*

**(Sung by the Choir and Congregation)**

**'Tis not all we owe to Jesus; it is something more than all:  
Greater good because of evil, larger mercy through the fall  
If our love were but more simple, we should take Him at His word;  
And our lives would be all sunshine in the sweetness of the Lord.**

*The Prayers*—Each section follows this pattern:

P: O gracious God, if You had ... and done no more,

**C: It would have been enough for us, more than we deserve.**

*The Offering by Flute and Piano:* “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Parting Praise*

P: Let us give thanks to our heavenly Father, who made us and provides for us; who guards and protects us, upholds and sustains us; who loves us with redeeming love in Jesus Christ, His Son.

*(to be sung)*

**All our wants and needs supplying, God the Father's voice is heard,  
Dark and chaos nullifying by His strong creative Word.  
Still His gracious hand provides us ev'rything we want or need,  
From all harm and danger hides us—strong and merciful, indeed!**

P: Let us give thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Word of God who became flesh for us; who gave His life upon the cross for our redemption and was raised for our justification; who pleads for us before the throne of grace, and will come again to receive His faithful into everlasting joy.

**All our wants and needs supplying, Christ, the Son of God, drew nigh,  
For us sinners suff'ring, dying, rising to His throne on high.  
There the virgin-born, in splendor, lives and reigns, all things to fill;  
Sin and death must now surrender to His all-pervading will.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Holy Spirit, by whom we are brought to saving faith in Jesus, united with God's people in His holy family, graced with the gifts of God, and empowered to live as God's beloved children, now and to all eternity.

**All our wants and needs supplying, God the Spirit has been sent,  
Christ's abundant grace applying in the Word and sacrament.  
Faithful saints, our Lord confessing, by God's grace at last shall stand  
In the place of endless blessing giv'n by His providing hand. (tune CW 169)**

P: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, Maker of all that exists. Blessed are you, Lord Jesus Christ, Redeemer of all the world. Blessed are you, O Holy Spirit, promised Friend and Counselor.

### The Common Doxology

**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.**

### Announcements

- A Stone Soup Supper will be served in the lower level immediately following tonight's service. All are welcome to stay for some fellowship time and a bite to eat.
- After the meal, a video story of Stone Soup will be shown.
- A Thanksgiving Day craft will be available for all to make.
- Tomorrow, on Thanksgiving Day, New Life will host 25 sailors from Great Lakes Naval Station for a traditional Thanksgiving meal at noon. You are invited to attend. Decorating of the fellowship hall will begin at 10:00 AM if you'd like to help.