

Thank and Praise, Serve and Obey



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

“Thank and Praise, Serve and Obey Him.”
November 25, 2020

AS WE GATHER

A Day of National Thanksgiving is an honored tradition in this nation. But thankfulness to God is something that transcends national borders and the boundaries of time. God’s people are always thankful people, for they know what great things He has done and continues to do for them. In Martin Luther’s explanation of the First Article of the Creed, he states that in response to God’s great gifts, it is the Christian’s “duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.” Our worship is one way through which we carry out that joyful duty.

BEFORE SERVICE PRAYER

Dear Savior, how many blessings You have given me—this free land, my home and family, my health and strength! But even if I should lose them all, I still have You, my greatest blessing. Amen.

PASTOR’S WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

“COME, YOU THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME” CW 613

**Come, you thankful people, come, Raise the song of harvest home;
All be safely gathered in, Ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker shall 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 weed 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,
Giving angels charge at last In the fire the weeds to cast;
But the fruitful ears to store In His garner evermore.**

**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.**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of God, our Heavenly Father,
People: **our Creator and Provider.**

Pastor: In the name of God, His Son, Jesus Christ,
People: **our Savior and Protector.**

Pastor: In the name of God, the Spirit,
People: **our Counselor and Guide.**

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 100 (*A psalm for giving thanks.*)

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth! Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!
People: **Know that the LORD, He is God! It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.**

Pastor: Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name!
People: **For the LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,
People: **who made heaven and earth.** (*Psalm 124:8*)

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
People: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** (*Psalm 32:5*)

(Silence for reflection on God's Word, private confession and self-examination)

Pastor: Lord God,

All: we come to You this evening confessing that we are often unthankful for all the gracious gifts You have given us. So often we worry unnecessarily about our future though it is in Your hands. Forgive our unthankfulness. For the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, forgive us, and fill us with the joy of Your presence and the promise of our eternal salvation.

Pastor: Through the mercy and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus, we have all gained access to His grace by which we now stand. By the command of Christ and the power of the cross, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Triune God: the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen. Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For He has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers. (Jeremiah 20:13)

Pastor: With thankful hearts, let us praise the LORD!

**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 battles we win.**

**With voices united our praises we offer;
To You, great Jehovah, glad anthems we raise.
Your strong arm will guide us; our God is beside us.
To You, our great Redeemer, fore'er be praise! (CW 609)**

PRAYER OF THE EVENING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, we adore You as the God and Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, 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 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. Give 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 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.

All: Amen.

CATECHISM

Pastor: Confessing faith and expressing thanks are completely linked together. In the Small Catechism, Martin Luther underscored the theme of thankfulness in his explanation of the First Article of the Creed, which focuses on God the Creator. Together we say:

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Reader: What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

People: For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

Reader: He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

People: For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

Reader: He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me.

People: For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Deuteronomy 8:1–10 *(Remember the LORD Your God)*

1 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 that the LORD promised on oath to your forefathers. 2 Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the desert these forty years, to humble you and to 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 fathers 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 His ways and revering Him. 7 For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land—a land with streams and pools of water, with springs flowing in 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: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM FOR THE EVENING: 67

Refrain

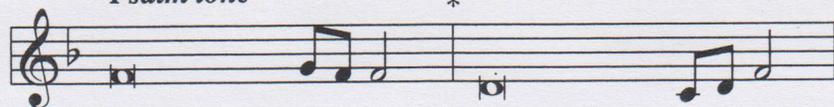


Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

Psalm tone



May God be gracious to us and bless us*
and make his face shine upon us;

may your ways be known on earth,*
your salvation among all nations.

May the nations be glad and sing for joy,*
for you rule the peoples justly
and guide the nations of the earth.

Refrain

Then the land will yield its harvest,*
and God, our God, will bless us.

God will bless us,*
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

EPISTLE LESSON: Philippians 4:10-13 (*Paul writes about "being content".*)

10 I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you have been 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 everything through Him who gives me strength.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORY

"FOR THE FRUIT OF HIS CREATION" CW 611

**For the fruit 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 be done.
In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done.
In our worldwide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing, God's will be 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.**

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 17:11–19 (*Jesus Cleanses Ten Lepers*)

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 pity 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 Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?”** 19 Then He said to him, **“Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”**

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

**Children of God, come, our Father almighty confessing,
Maker of heaven and earth, endless glory possessing.
Who, by His might, shattered the darkness with light,
Filling all things with His blessing.**

**Proclaim our faith in God's Son, our Redeemer, Christ Jesus,
Son of the virgin. His death from all trespasses frees us.
Raised from the grave, He lives, His people to save,
From our own graves to release us.**

**Christ reigns on High! On His people the Spirit, descending,
Binds with forgiveness the saint in one holy befriending,
By whom is heard God's sure, unbreakable Word,
Promise of life without ending. (CW 234)**

SERMON

OFFERING (Can be placed in the plate on the table at the entry doors of the chapel either before or after the service.)

OFFERING HYMN “PRAISE TO GOD, IMMORTAL PRAISE” CW 612 VS. 1 & 4

**Praise to God, immortal praise, For the love that crowns our days.
Bounteous Source of ev'ry joy, Let Your praise our tongues employ.
All to You, our God, we owe, Source whence all our blessings flow.**

**As Your prosp'ring hand has blest, May we give You of our best
And by deeds of kindly love For Your mercies grateful prove,
Singing thus through all our days: "Praise to God, immortal praise."**

CATECHISM

Pastor: Having expressed our thanks in song, we confess our faith in the words of the Creed.

People: I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

Reader: What does this mean? I believe that Jesus Christ . . . has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature . . . that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.

People: For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ and for all people according to their needs. Thank You, Lord,

People: for food, health, clothing, and homes.

Pastor: Thank You, Lord,

People: for the many freedoms we enjoy.

Pastor: Thank You, Lord,

People: for a just government.

Pastor: Thank You, Lord,

People: for teachers, family, and friends.

Pastor: Thank You, Lord,

People: for the gifts You give to Your Church.

Pastor: Thank You, Lord,

People: for Baptism, the Lord's Supper, forgiveness, grace, hope, and Your Word.

(A moment of silence to give thanks to God.)

Pastor: Thank You, Lord, for Jesus Christ, Your only Son, through whom You give us the gifts of forgiveness and eternal life in Your Kingdom.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen!

LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:9-13)

Our Father, Lord on heav'n's high throne, most holy be Your name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth—in heav'n the same.

Give us this day the food we need; forgiven may we be;
Into temptation do not lead; from evil set us free.

All rule and might and glory be to You while ages run
And even to eternity. Amen. So be it done! (CW 441)

CATECHISM

Pastor: Having thanked the Lord for the blessings that are ours in Christ, we now express our thanks for the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our hearts and lives.

People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Reader: What does this mean? I believe that . . . the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. . . . On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

People: For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: For all that God has done and continues to do,

People: I ought to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD” CW 610

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 mother's arms Has blessed 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 evermore.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the service, all are welcome to head downstairs for a traditional stone soup supper.

The Adopt-a-Sailor program has been canceled by Great Lakes Naval Station this year.