

Christ Lutheran

November 25, 2020



Thanksgiving Eve

Welcome

Opening Song

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" LSB 686

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Preparing our Hearts For Thanks

P: Let us come before our God and give Him thanks!

C: O Lord, open our lips, and our mouths will declare Your praise!

P: Our God is an awesome God,

C: Greatly to be praised!

P: Our God is a God of love, grace, and forgiveness,

C: Having removed our sins and far as the east is from the west. Alleluia!

P: Let us come before our awesome, forgiving God with open hearts, giving hands, and thankful souls:

C: May the Lord make us truly thankful. We pray today for all who are too jealous to be thankful, who complain, "Why do they get everything?" and who are always comparing themselves with those who have more.

P: We pray for all who have forgotten how to say thank you; who have gotten used to saying, "I earned this," and who truly feel they have only themselves to thank.

C: We pray for all who are too busy to be thankful; who asked themselves this morning, "Do I have time to go to church?" and who even in worship are thinking about their to-do lists.

P: We pray for all who are grudgingly thankful; who say, "I guess this will have to do," while believing that God has given them a raw deal.

C: We pray for all who are too tired to be thankful, who sigh, "I just want to get through this day," and who have no energy to open their eyes to the blessings around them.

P: We pray for all who are not thankful enough to be generous, who bargain with God, "I'll be unselfish when you give me more," or who are free with money, but are stingy in spending time with others.

C: We pray for all who are barely thankful; who say the words, but don't feel grateful in their hearts; who go through the motions, but think, "I don't know how to be really thankful." Today we pray a simple prayer. For what we have received, Lord, make us truly thankful. Amen.

A Psalm of Thanksgiving (Adapted from Psalm 118)

P: Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

C: His love endures forever.

P: Let Israel say:

C: "His love endures forever."

P: Let those who fear the LORD say:

C: "His love endures forever."

P: When hard pressed, I cried to the LORD; He brought me into a spacious place.

C: The LORD is with me; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?

P: The LORD is with me; He is my helper. I look in triumph on my enemies.

C: I will give you thanks, for You answered me; You have become my salvation.

P: The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;

C: The LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

P: You are my God, and I will praise You;

C: You are my God, and I will exalt You.

P: Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

C: His love endures forever.

The Lessons

The Old Testament Lesson

Deuteronomy 8:1–10

"The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the Lord your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the Lord your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land he has given you.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Lesson

Philippians 4:6–20

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, 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. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 17:11–19

On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

Message Hymn

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" LSB 802

The Meditation

"The Will of God"

Prayers of Thanksgiving

P: O God, we thank You for this earth, our home; for the wide sky and the blessed sun, for the salt sea and the running water, for the everlasting hills and the never-resting winds, for trees and the common grass underfoot. We thank you for our senses by which we hear the songs of birds, and see the splendor of the summer fields, and taste of the autumn fruits, and rejoice in the feel of the rain, and smell the breath of the spring. Grant us a heart wide open to all this beauty; and save our souls from being so blind that we pass unseeing when even the common thornbush is aflame with Your glory, O God our Creator, who lives and reigns forever and ever.

C: This Thanksgiving, let those of us who have much and those who have little gather at the welcoming table of the Lord. At this blessed feast, may rich and poor alike remember that we are called to serve one another and to walk together in God's gracious world. With thankful hearts we praise our God, who like a loving parent denies us no good thing.

P: Today and every day, it pleases God for us to sit as brothers and sisters as we share the bounty of the earth and the grace God has placed in each blessed soul.

C: For this we all give thanks and praise to our loving and gracious God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending and Benediction

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!

C: His love lasts forever!

P: Go in peace; serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen! Praise the Lord. Amen!

Closing Song

"Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng" LSB 813

The service is over...the worship begins! Romans 12:1

The Hymnal Project

“In early 2017, a group of artists, arrangers, and liturgists, led by Peter Prochnow, were commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS to create several new hymn arrangements, based on the original music, intended to facilitate enhanced worship in a multitude of modern musical contexts.

The spirit of the project is simple: Hymns are arranged with various instrumentations and made available free of charge, in the form of a lead sheet and reference recording, so whether you learn by reading or by hearing, you can easily implement these arrangements and modify for your context without cost.

We are grateful for the generosity of the donors, Carl and Patsy Fabry, in partnership with the Michigan District, LCMS.”

The hymn videos used during worship can be found here:

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/6931887>