



SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

November 24th, 2021

Invocation

- P** We begin this time of worship and thanksgiving
- C** **in the name of the Father;**
- P** who richly and daily supplies us with all we need for this body and life.
- C** **In the name of his Son, Jesus Christ;**
- P** who purchased and won us, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood, and his innocent suffering and death.
- C** **In the name of the Holy Spirit;**
- P** who calls us by the Gospel and sanctifies and keeps us in the one true faith, just as he calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth.
- C** **Amen.**

Let All Things Now Living

ELW 881

- 1 **Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God the Creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
who guides us and leads to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us,
his light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night;
till shadows have vanished
and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.**
- 2 **God rules all the forces;
the stars in their courses**

and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise,
till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

Confession & Absolution

- P** Heavenly Father, we have been richly blessed by you.
- C** **We confess, Father, that we easily forget all the blessings you shower upon us daily. We become distracted by the cares and worries of life and forget that you are the giver of all good gifts.**
- P** Lord Jesus, we thank you for coming into the world to be our savior.
- C** **We confess, O Immanuel, that we do not follow your commandment to love one another as we have been loved and to share your forgiveness and good news with the world.**
- P** Holy Spirit, you have called us to faith in Christ, and have continued to gift us with new hearts, spiritual gifts, and fruits of new life.
- C** **We confess, Spirit of life, that we often forget our calling to be your holy people, and live as those we once were instead of those we have become.**

We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.

- P** Although we often forget that every blessing comes from God, God does not forget his covenant with us. He has promised to forgive our wickedness, and remember our sins no more. Therefore, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen! Thank you, Lord for remembering your promises to us.**

First Reading

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

⁶Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under

compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ 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. ⁹ As it is written: “They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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. ¹³ Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. ¹⁴ And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Praise and Thanksgiving

LSB 789

- 1 Praise and thanksgiving,
Father, we offer
For all things living,
Created good:
Harvest of sown fields,
Fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields,
Blossom and wood.**
- 2 Bless, Lord, the labor
We bring to serve you
That with our neighbor
We may be fed.
Sowing or tilling,
We would work with you,
Harvesting, milling
For daily bread.**
- 3 Father, providing
Food for your children,
By your wise guiding**

**Teach us to share
One with another,
So that, rejoicing
With us, all others
May know your care.**

Second Reading

Philippians 4:6–7

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 12:15–21

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

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’”

¹⁸ “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹ And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’”

²⁰ “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’”

²¹ “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

For the Fruits of His Creation

LSB 894

1 **For the fruits 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 safekeeping,
Thanks be to God.

- 2 In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

- 3 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.

Homily

We Praise You, O God

LSB 785

- 1 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.
- 2 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 struggles we win.
- 3 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!

The First Article

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P What does this mean?

C **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.**

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse 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.

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. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve, and obey him.

This is most certainly true.

Prayer of the Church

P Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C **God's steadfast love endures forever.**

P Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name.

C **Make known God's deeds among the peoples!**

P God blesses us with gifts of love;

C **With food and clothing, home and family.**

P God blesses us with daily work,

C **And all we need from day to day.**

P God protects us in time of danger,

C **And guards us from every evil.**

P God calls us into relationship with him,

C **And forms us into one holy people, the Church of Jesus Christ in this place.**

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

C **O Lord our God, we will give thanks to you forever.**

P For all your blessings: food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout spouse, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

C **Thank you, Lord, for your kindness and goodness to us.**

P Thank you, Lord, for all your blessings that we name before you now... *(the congregation makes their own prayers of thanksgiving)*. We thank you for all of this in the name of Jesus.

C Amen

Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

LSB 782

- 1** Gracious God, you send great blessings
New each morning all our days.
For your mercies never ending,
For your love we offer praise. *Refrain*

ref Lord, we pray that we, your people
Who your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of your blessings
May bring glory to your name.

- 2** By your Word you formed creation
Filled with creatures large and small;
As we tend that endless treasure
May our care encircle all. *Refrain*

- 3** In his earthly life, our Savior
Knew the care of faithful friends;
May our deeds of dedication
Offer love that never ends. *Refrain*

- 4** Heav'nly Father, may our caring
Bear the imprint of your grace;
With the Son and Holy Spirit,
Praise be yours in ev'ry place! *Refrain*

Presentation of the Offering

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

LSB 806

- 1** Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ his Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ his Son.
And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
Let the poor say "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
Let the poor say "I am rich,"

**Because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks, give thanks.**

Sharing of the Peace

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** We share Christ's peace with one another.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

Blessing

- P** Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the almighty God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and always.
- C** **Amen.**

O God, Beyond All Praising

ELW 880

- 1 O God, beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
For we can only wonder at every gift you send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end:
We lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
We honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.**
- 2 The flower of earthly splendor in time must surely die,
Its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;
But hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown
Though small in mortal stature, to heaven's garden grown:
For Christ the man from heaven from death has set us free,
And we through him are given the final victory.**
- 3 Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,
That we who know your favor may serve you as our King;
And whether our tomorrow be filled with good or ill,
We'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to praise you still:**

**To marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
And make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise!**



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Lutheran Church

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**Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another reaching out to all people,
proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.**

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