



Thanksgiving Eve Worship

St. Paul Lutheran Church & Preschool

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Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School for Children and Youth at 9:45 a.m.
Adult Bible study at 10:00 a.m.

The Divine Service

Thanksgiving Eve
November 22, 2023

AS WE GATHER

It is difficult to give thanks when you are not content. To be content is to be satisfied with what you have. Sadly, even in this season of thanksgiving, we might be more familiar with the opposite of contentment—greed or covetousness. Perhaps the Apostle Paul's words from today's Epistle can help. Even while under arrest in Rome for the sake of the Gospel, Paul still writes, "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." Paul's "secret" when it comes to contentment is that in Christ, and in His strength, Paul has all he needs. Jesus' death, resurrection, and presence in our lives gives us reason to be content and to give thanks today and every day! Give me Jesus, Give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, Give me Jesus.

THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION

Pastor: In many ways, this proclamation, made by President Abraham Lincoln, set the precedent for America's National Day of Thanksgiving. "The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. . . . No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they 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 next, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens." Today, we join in giving thanks and praise to our loving heavenly Father.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" *LSB 892, verses 1 & 4*



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; Raise the song of 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;
Gath - er Thou 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.
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.
Come with all Thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har - vest home.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 67:5-7

Pastor: Let the peoples praise You, O God;

People: **let all the peoples praise You!**

Pastor: The earth has yielded its increase;

People: **God, our God, shall bless us.**

Pastor: God shall bless us;

People: **let all the ends of the earth fear Him!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deuteronomy 8:6

Pastor: So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God

People: by walking in His ways and by fearing Him.

Pastor: We recognize today that we have broken the Lord's commandments. Rather than be thankful, we have been greedy and unsatisfied with the many blessings we have received from our heavenly Father. As people who are by nature sinful and unclean, we have coveted our neighbor's house, wife, and other possessions. We confess today our lack of contentment and all sin.

People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

INTROIT

Psalm 104:24, 27-28, 30; antiphon: Psalm 104:33

Pastor: I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

People: I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

Pastor: O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom have You made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures.

People: These all look to You, to give them their food in due season.

Pastor: When You give it to them, they gather it up; when You open Your hand, they are filled with good things.

People: When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created, and You renew the face of the ground. 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.

Pastor: I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;

People: I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning, and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 8:1–10* (“Man does not live on bread alone.”)

“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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Psalm 136:1

Pastor: Alleluia. Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever. Alleluia.

People: Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 17:11-19* (Jesus heals the ten lepers.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

LSB 790, verses 1,2 &5



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
dore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
prais - es be - fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
6 peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him!

SERMON

“With Grateful Heart”

Pastor Scott Henze

APOSTLES’ CREED

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. 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. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Father in heaven, every good and perfect gift comes from You. You provide all we need for our lives. You protect our bodies from all harm. You give us families and friends to cheer and encourage us.

People: **We thank You for Your many blessings!**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You give us Your forgiveness. You free us from sin, death, and the devil.

People: **We thank You for Your many blessings!**

Pastor: Blessed Holy Spirit, You called us to faith and adopted us as Your own children.

People: **We thank You for Your many blessings!**

Pastor: Father, bless those You have given to us to preserve us. Bless our government, our schools, and those who protect us day and night, such as doctors, firefighters, and police officers.

People: **Bless Your people!**

Pastor: Jesus, bless those You have given to teach about You. Open the mouths of Your pastors to praise You and point all Your people to You.

People: **Bless Your people!**

Pastor: Triune God, we lift our voices to You in thankful praise. Take all we have and use it to Your glory!

People: **Bless Your thankful people! Amen!**

OFFERING (*The offering tonight will be given to LifeNet4Families Food Pantry*)

OFFERTORY **"Sing to the Lord of Harvest"** *LSB 893, verses 1 & 2*



1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest, Sing songs of love and praise;
2 God makes the clouds rain good - ness, The des - erts bloom and spring,



With joy - ful hearts and voic - es Your al - le - lu - ias raise.
The hills leap up in glad - ness, The val - leys laugh and sing.



By Him the roll - ing sea - sons In fruit - ful or - der move;
God fills them with His full - ness, All things with large in - crease;



Sing to the Lord of har - vest A joy - ous song of love.
He crowns the year with bless - ing, With plen - ty and with peace.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand as you are able.

PREFACE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

A word about Holy Communion: We are about to receive the Lord's Supper. Before you receive, you might consider the following questions: Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you believe that in the Lord's Supper he gives you his true body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and strengthens your faith in him and your love for others? If you are a baptized Christian and share these Biblical truths, please come! Those who have not yet received instruction may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest to indicate they are not receiving the elements.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9–13)*

Pastor: With thanksgiving, we pray the prayer Jesus taught us.

People: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

AGNUS DEI

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"For the Fruit of His Creations"

LSB 894



1 For the fruits of His 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 His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done. In our
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,
world-wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair-ing,
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.

Eucharistic Thanks "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart"

LSB 806



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give thanks to the



Ho - ly One, Give thanks _____ be - cause He's giv - en__ Je - sus



Christ His Son. Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give



thanks to the Ho - ly One, Give thanks _____ be - cause He's giv - en__

Je-sus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," Be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," Be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks, give thanks.

WELCOMING OF GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION *Psalm 67:1*

Pastor: May God be gracious to us and bless us

People: and make His face to shine upon us.

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. [*Numbers 6:24-26*]

People: Amen.

HYMN "Now Thank We All Our God" *LSB 895 verses 1-3*



1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voic - es,
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,
△ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,



Who won-drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,



Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way
And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;



With count-less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Lord Jesus you lead us! Now we go as....

People: **Disciples making disciples.**

Leader: Go in Peace and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

