

DAY OF THANKSGIVING

Thankfulness and Praise
November 21 & 22, 2012

AS WE GATHER

The observance of A Day of National Thanksgiving is the celebration of a national holiday that is closely linked with some form of religious experience. Thankfulness needs to go somewhere . . . to someone beyond an individual person. Although we tend to identify Thanksgiving Day with the early American experience of the Pilgrims in Massachusetts, the reality of God's grateful people expressing thanks to Him goes all the way back to the very beginnings of time itself. The biblical record has many accounts of people speaking words of thanksgiving to God. Many psalms are expressions of thanksgiving to the Lord. The letters of St. Paul are filled with expressions of thanks to God as well. Although individual thanksgiving is important, thankfulness finds fullest expression when God's people are gathered together for the purpose of giving Him their thanks and praise. A national day of Thanksgiving helps to bring about that most-appropriate gathering for worship.

PRE-SERVICE BELLS "Now Thank We All Our God"

WELCOME

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN #895 "Now Thank We All Our God"

Rise for last stanza

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 mothers' arms Has blest 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 ever-more.

INVOCATION and OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving be made for all people,

People: for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

Pastor: This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God, our Savior,

People: who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Timothy 2:1-4

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: I will go to the altar of God,

People: to God my exceeding joy. Psalm 43:4

Pastor: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

People: Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth. Psalm 124:8

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God, our gracious Father.

All: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all people, we confess that we are indeed sinful. We have broken our fellowship with you and have turned away from each other in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil you forbid and have not done the good you demand. We have not lived lives that are continuing expressions of gratitude. We repent and are truly sorry for all of our sins. Have mercy on us because of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Grant that, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we may live faithfully with heartfelt thankfulness until that time when we rejoice together in your eternal presence.

Pastor: God forgives those who repent of sin and turn to Him for grace. Therefore as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. May He keep you steadfast in the Holy Spirit, lead you to increased faith and greater obedience, grant you a spirit of ongoing thankfulness and finally bring you to live with Him forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, we adore you as the God and Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus, 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 may with thankful hearts receive your 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, righteousness, and blessedness all our days. Give us faith that inaugurates love, hope that continually encourages, kindness that generously blesses, confidence that never wavers, patience that does not grow weary, and courage that boldly confesses Christ, that we may 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.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF THANKS #806 "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart"

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.
(Be seated)

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT Deuteronomy 8:1-10 (Remember the goodness of the LORD.) 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. 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. 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. Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years. Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the LORD your God disciplines you. Observe the commands of the LORD your God, walking in his ways and revering him. 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; a land with wheat and barley, vines and fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey; 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. When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

EPISTLE Philippians 4:6-20 (Do everything with thanksgiving to God.) Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you. 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. I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 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. I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set

out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid again and again when I was in need. Not that I am looking for a gift, but I am looking for what may be credited to your account. I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

6:00 ANTHEM *"I Thank You Lord"* *Choir*

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 17:11-19 (One leper shows gratitude to Jesus.) Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY #785 "We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator"

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'er-take us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

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!

SERMON *"Eat and Be Satisfied and Praise the Lord"* *Deuteronomy 8:1-10*

(Rise)
THE NICENE CREED *(inside back cover of the hymnal)*
(Be seated)

OFFERING As your offering is collected, please sign our attendance book located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle.

6:00 "Give Thanks" *Bell Choir*

(Rise)

PRAYERS

Each petition concludes with...

Pastor: we give you thanks,

People: and bless your holy name.

Pastor: You are indeed blessed and holy and worthy of all honor and praise, O Father Almighty, O only-begotten Son, O Spirit of Holiness. To you alone do we give all glory now and ever and unto the ages of ages!

People: Amen!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "Lord, to You Immortal Praise" #496 (LW)

(tune: LSB #397 As with Gladness Men of Old)

Lord, to you 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.

All the plenty summer pours; Autumn's rich, abundant stores,
Flocks that whiten all the plain, Yellow sheaves of ripened grain:
Lord, for these our souls shall raise Grateful vows and solemn praise.

Peace, prosperity, and health, Private bliss and public wealth,
Knowledge with its gladd'ning streams, True religion's holier beams:
Lord, for these our souls shall raise Grateful vows and solemn praise.

As your prosp'ring hand has blest, May we give you of the best
And by deeds of kindly love For your mercies grateful prove,
Singing thus through all our days: "Lord, to you immortal praise."

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POSTLUDE

Preacher

Liturgist

Lectors

Acolytes

Organist

Choir Director

Bell Choir Director

Music Coordinator

Pastor Harold Bender, Jr.

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Frank Coogan, John Ficken

Jackson Mueller, Andrew Niemer

Roger Gottschalk

Nancy Hoelke

Jan Schneider

Kim Woller