

THANKSGIVING DAY

Gratitude Is Contentment

November 22 & 23, 2017

AS WE GATHER

Gratitude does not depend on what is given or what is received. Gratitude is an attitude of the heart. One with a grateful heart stops immediately. Nothing else can go on until thanksgiving is expressed. That is what we see in the one leper who is healed. He cannot go back to his old life, nor can he begin his new life until he returns to Jesus, the source of healing, and offers Him thanks and praise. Our nation has been richly blessed by God. Each of us has received mercies new every morning. The key to contentment and peace is neither the abundance of gifts nor an absence, but a heart that returns thanks to the source of those gifts. Today we pause to do that, as a nation, as a people, and as Christians.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #892 “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

Come, ye thankful people, come; Raise the song of harvest home.
All be safely gathered in Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our maker, doth 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 tares 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,
Give His angels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store In His garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come To Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in, Free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified, In Thy garner to abide;
Come with all Thine angels, come, Raise the glorious harvest home.

(Rise)

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

1

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

People: **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: May He who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: Amen.

HYMN #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.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, your giving knows no ending. Keep us from the sin of ingratitude, from taking for granted your blessings, and from forgetting to offer you the thanks and praise you are due. Fill us with thankfulness, that we may praise your goodness and learn true contentment, both for this life and for eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

2 (Be seated)

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 8:1–10* (Give thanks to God for His gift of the land.) “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.

EPISTLE *Philippians 4:6–20* (I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.) 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.

CHOIR ANTHEM (6:00) *“For the Fruit of All Creation”*

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 17:11–19* (Jesus gives healing to ten, but only one returns to give thanks.) 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.”

(Be seated)

SERMON HYMN #785 “We Praise You, O God”

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 father, 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

“Where Are the Nine?”

Luke 17:11-19

(Rise)

NICENE CREED (*found on the 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. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, your mercies are new unto us every morning, and though we have not deserved your goodness, you abundantly provide for all our wants of body and soul. We thank you for all your blessings, food and clothing, house and home, friends and family; forgive us those times when we are not thankful for all your fatherly goodness toward us. Grant us your Holy Spirit, that we may heartily acknowledge your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Almighty and most merciful God and Father, through your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, you have established your Church to be a temple and dwelling place of the Holy Spirit. We give thanks that you continue to provide shepherds to feed and serve your flock of which the Holy Spirit has made them overseers. We humbly implore you ever to strengthen the labors of your ministers, that through their ministry of Word and Sacrament your people may increase in your knowledge and service and grow up into Him who is the Head, even Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, you have given us this good land as our heritage. Grant that we remember your generosity and constantly do your will. Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education, and an honorable way of life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil course of action. Grant that we, who came from many nations with many different languages, may become a united people. Support us in defending our liberties, and give those to whom we have entrusted the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there may be justice and peace in our land. When times are prosperous, may our hearts be thankful, and in troubled times, do not let our trust in you fail; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Merciful God, graciously take into your fatherly care the sick and needy, those who are widowed and orphaned, the homeless and homebound, the lonely and forgotten, and all who are in any trouble, temptation, anguish of labor, peril of death, or any other adversity. Comfort them, O God, with your Holy Spirit, that they may patiently endure their afflictions and acknowledge them as a manifestation of your fatherly will. Preserve them from faintheartedness and despondency, and help them to seek you, the great physician of their souls. Grant healing according to your will, and bless all caregivers. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: O God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for your loving-kindness shown to all your servants who, having finished their course in faith, now rest from their labors. Grant that we also may be faithful unto death and receive the crown of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: O Lord, Father Almighty, by your Word you created and you continue to bless and uphold all things. We pray you to reveal to us your Word, our Lord Jesus Christ, that, through His dwelling in our hearts, we may by your grace, be made ready to receive your blessing on all the fruits of the earth and whatsoever pertains to our bodily need; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

People: may the name of the Lord be praised.

Pastor: Without anxiety or fear, but in all things, by prayer and supplication, offer your requests to God.

People: And may the peace of God which surpasses all our understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: The blessing of almighty God—Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit—remain with you now and forever.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #895 “Now Thank We All Our God”

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 evermore.

Preacher
Liturgist
Lectors
Acolytes
Organist
Adult Choir Director

Pastor Gregg Stanton
Pastor Harold Bender
Dalen Heinzen
Kaden Hutchins, Isabella Foti
Michelle Prince
Nancy Hoelke

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