



## THANKSGIVING FESTIVAL SERVICE

**What Time Is It?**

**A Time to Give Thanks**

November 21 and 22, 2018

### RINGING OF THE BELLS

#### OPENING HYMN 613

#### **Come, You Thankful People, Come**

**Come, you thankful people, come; Raise the song of harvest-home.  
All be safely gathered in Ere the winter storms begin.  
God our maker shall 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 weeds 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 weeds to cast,  
But the fruitful ears to store In his garner evermore.**

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

#### INVOCATION

**M** In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**M** As we enter God's presence to give thanks to him for all his blessings, we confess our sins and our unworthiness. Clothed and renewed through the gift of his forgiveness, we find even greater reason to worship, adore, and give thanks to him whose grace is lavish and abundant.

C Forgive us, Lord, for shallow thankfulness,  
For dull content with warmth and sheltered care,  
For songs of praise for worldly wealthiness,  
While of your richer gifts we're unaware.

Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise,  
For words that speak at variance with deeds;  
Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways  
Unmindful of a broken brother's needs.

Forgive us, Lord, for feast that knows not fast,  
For joy in things that meanwhile starve the soul,  
For walls and wars that hide your mercies vast  
And blur our vision of the kingdom goal.

M Forgive us, Lord,  
C for we have used your gifts without being grateful, abused your grace and kindness, and rebelled against your ownership of all we so quickly call our own. Forgive us for our many sins against you and against one another. Restore us by your grace, and lead us to know and do your will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

M Upon this your confession, I, as a called 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.

M May he who began this good work in you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.  
C Amen.

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE 241, v. 2

Alleluia! Let Praises Ring!

Alleluia! Let praises ring!  
Unto the Lamb of God we sing,  
In whom we are elected.  
He bought the Church with his own blood;  
He cleansed her in that blessed flood  
And as his bride selected.  
Holy, Holy Is our union  
And communion. His befriending  
Gives us joy and peace unending.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Almighty God, you show us mercy every morning and provide for every need of body and soul. Grant us your Holy Spirit, that we may in faith acknowledge your merciful goodness to us, giving thanks for all that you provide; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING FOR OUR LAND

### OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

**Deuteronomy 8:1-10**, Bible page 184

*We give thanks for the good land we enjoy.*

### PSALMS

**Psalms 104 and 105**, *selected verses*

*The psalmist reminds us that God made the earth and still supplies the bounty we enjoy.*

M Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, you are very great!

C **You set the earth on its foundations, so that it should never be moved.**

M You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills; they give drink to every beast of the field.

C **From your lofty abode you water the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.**

M You cause the grass to grow for the livestock and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth.

C **The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. You open your hand; you satisfy the desire of every living thing.**

M O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

All **May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works. Bless the Lord, O my soul! Praise the Lord! 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.**

Sing to the Lord of harvest; Sing songs of love and praise.  
 With joyful hearts and voices Your alleluias raise.  
 By him the rolling seasons In fruitful order move;  
 Sing to the Lord of harvest A joyous song of love.

God makes the clouds rain goodness; The deserts bloom and spring.  
 The hills leap up in gladness; The valleys laugh and sing.  
 God fills them with his fullness, All things with large increase;  
 He crowns the year with blessing, With plenty and with peace.

Bring to this sacred altar The gifts his goodness gave,  
 The golden sheaves of harvest, The souls Christ died to save.  
 Your hearts lay down before him When at his feet you fall,  
 And with your lives adore him Who gave his life for all.

#### THANKSGIVING FOR OUR FREEDOM

#### EPISTLE LESSON

1 Timothy 2:1-6a, Bible page 1193

*We give thanks for freedom and pray for those in authority.*

#### PSALM

Psalm 85

*The psalmist prays for God's blessing upon the nation and  
 for the people to trust in him.*

M Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

C **You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin. You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.**

M Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us.

C **Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?**

M Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

C **Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.**

M Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.  
 Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

C **Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.**

M Yes, the Lord will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

C **Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.**

All **Lord, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.  
 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.**

Before the Lord we bow, the God who reigns above  
And rules the world below in boundless pow'r and love.  
Our thanks we bring; in joy and praise  
Our hearts we raise to heav'n's high King.

The nation you have blessed may well your love declare,  
From foes and fears at rest, protected by your care.  
For this fair land, for this bright day  
Our thanks we pay -- gifts of your hand.

Earth, hear your Maker's voice; your great Redeemer own.  
Believe, obey, rejoice, and worship him alone.  
Cast down your pride! your sin deplore  
And bow before the Crucified!

THANKSGIVING FOR OUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

GOSPEL

**Luke 17:11-19**, Bible page 1050

*Jesus gives healing to ten, but only one receives the gift  
with faith and knows its fullest blessing.*

PSALM

**Psalm 103**, Hymnal page 105

*The psalmist invites us to recall with him the Lord's  
grace and many kindnesses.*

SERMON

**Deuteronomy 8:1-10**, Bible page 184

What a Rich Feast Before Us Today!

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (*Wednesday*)

**Now Thank We All Our God**, Brass Ensemble  
*by Václav Nelhýbel*

(*Thursday*)

**The Lord Is So Good**, Called to Sing  
*by Debby Boone*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M O God, you sustain all living things. Guard your Church that she may not grow weary but with steadfast hope remain faithful until the coming of your Son, who will lead her into the good land of your heavenly kingdom. We give you thanks, O Lord,  
C **and bless your holy name.**

M O God, you open our hearts by your Spirit that we may believe. Bring the knowledge of the truth to all the people of the world, that those who live in darkness and even the enemies of the cross of Christ may be rescued from despair and wickedness to know your grace. We give you thanks, O Lord,  
C **and bless your holy name.**

M O God, giver of all good gifts, you have granted our nation an abundance of land, resources, and wealth. Continue to satisfy us with the bounty of your harvest and make us wise stewards and managers of such rich gifts. Guide our President and all our elected leaders and protect all our men and women fighting to protect our nation. We give you thanks, O Lord,  
C **and bless your holy name.**

M O God, you give us the privilege of labor that we may serve you in the care and use of all your gifts. Strengthen all those who labor that their efforts may flourish and all people may benefit from their work. We give you thanks, O Lord,  
C **and bless your holy name.**

M O God, grant healing and grace to all the sick, those who suffer, the dying, and the grieving, that they may find hope and strength, relief and peace, in you. We give you thanks, O Lord,  
C **and bless your holy name.**

M O God, you hear and answer all prayer. Through these supplications we commend all things into your hands and offer our thanksgiving to you, trusting that you will supply our every need through the riches of your glory in Christ Jesus, our Lord.  
C **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## BLESSING

M The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



## CLOSING HYMN 610

## 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 mother's arms Has blessed 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.

POSTLUDE (*Wednesday*) **Give Thanks**, *Brass Ensemble*  
*by Al Schumacher*

ORGANIST *Darik Mischke*

### ADVENT SERVICES

Wednesday Advent services: December 5, 12, and 19, at 3:30 and 7:00 pm

Enjoy a soup supper between services.

### CHRISTMAS SERVICES

The Bridge Christmas Eve Worship Service: Noon

Traditional Christmas Eve Worship Services: 2:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, and 10:00 pm

Traditional Christmas Day Worship Services with Holy Communion: 8:00 am and 10:00 am



Our vision is that by every possible means we bring every person in our area of influence closer to Christ through regular worship, small groups, and serving together.

---



# NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points

---

## WHAT A RICH FEAST BEFORE US TODAY! Deuteronomy 8:1-10

“Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest and let these gifts to us be blessed.”

### 1. God’s Promises of Daily Bread

A. To Ancient Israel – “the Promised Land of \_\_\_\_\_”

B. To You and Me – “the Promised Land in \_\_\_\_\_”

**APPLICATION** More than “Daily Bread” feasts

### 2. God’s Love in the Challenges

A. In the Face of Hurts, Struggles, Guilt – “Might we be struggling a bit with the \_\_\_\_\_?”

B. He is Always Teaching and Developing – “The LORD is a great \_\_\_\_\_ and fine \_\_\_\_\_.”

**APPLICATION** “Pass the squash please—it’s good for me.”

### 3. God’s Faithfulness in the Thanks-giving

A. The Blessings Keep Coming – “Remember God’s \_\_\_\_\_.”

B. Be Awake and Alive! – “But I don’t LIKE \_\_\_\_\_, Lord!”

**APPLICATION** Am I afraid of my future?

**CONCLUSION** “O, give thanks unto the LORD for he is good.”

### Next Steps

- **Ponder His Promises:** Read Revelation 7:9-17. Do these words “fall a bit flat” for you, or are they *vibrant* and *awesome* like the sun on a cold day? Analyze the “why”.
- **Consider His Love:** Reconnect with Romans 8:28. If you are in the habit of speeding when you drive, how would you allow life to play out if YOU were God as you are in control of things for the care of people? (think police officer) Why?
- **Identify His Faithfulness:** Look back over the years of your life. Identify three hardships. Identify how God has blessed you through them, or is blessing through them still. Share with others and be amazed!