

**Thanksgiving Eve** 

Worship 7:00 pm November 27, 2019





**Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church!** Please sign the red Worship Witness booklet to record your attendance with us this day, and indicate how many are communing. Then pass the booklet to the worshipers beside you in your row. If you are a guest, name tags are available for you to wear---we would be delighted to greet you by name. Hearing assistance devices and large print bulletins are available from an usher.

# about today's service

Every gathering for worship has elements of thanksgiving. When we are nourished with God's bounty in holy communion, when we partake of Jesus' word that gives life to the world, and even when two or three of us simply join our hearts in prayer to make our requests known to God, we do so "with thanksgiving." Let us give thanks to the Lord, who is good and whose mercy endures forever.

P: Presiding Minister A: Assisting Minister L: Lector C: Congregation

# + Gathering +

We gather together to praise God and receive God's love.

Prelude: "Thanksgiving" (December)

George Winston

Welcome

[Stand]



Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt. Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

## Greeting

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

Thanksgiving Litany from Psalm 65

- P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- P: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good!
- C: His love endures forever!
- P: Praise awaits you, O God!
- C: You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.
- P: The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it.
- C: You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften the land with showers and bless its crops.
- P: You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance.
- C: The hills are clothed with gladness. The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing!
- P: And when we were overwhelmed by sins,
- C: You forgave our transgressions!
- P: Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts!
- C: We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple!

Confession and Absolution

- P: O Lord, our thanksgiving has often been shallow and empty, for we have been selfish, greedy, and unwilling to share.
- C: Forgive us, Lord, for our lack of contentment, even though our wealth and blessings abound.
- P: O Lord, we have not been good stewards of your blessings. We have the abundance which you have given us, and which you intended for us to share with those in need, and we have selfishly spent it on ourselves.
- C: Forgive us, Lord, for our lack of mercy for those in need, and for thinking too much of ourselves.

- P: O Lord, we have often unthinkingly consumed your blessings, taking them for granted, and failing to remember their source. Do not cast us away, as we deserve, Lord, for we have complained about what we don't have, and we have wasted what you have provided.
- C: Forgive us, Lord, for empty words of thanks, and help us to live our thanks by being content and generous with our blessings.
- P: Our Savior has paid for these and all of our sins, and we shall not be condemned. Now, with the greatest blessing of all—the gift of forgiveness, full and free, through Christ—may God grant us the joyful response of contentment and unselfishness, and may his name be glorified in our thanksgiving and our thanks-living.

#### Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

[Sit]

# + Word +

We listen to the story of God's mighty acts for the sake of God's people.

President Abraham Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation 1863

First Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

The annual harvest festival called the feast of Weeks provides the setting for today's reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land, offered back to God in thanks. As they bring their offerings, worshipers remember and proclaim God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.

<sup>1</sup>When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, <sup>2</sup>you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. <sup>3</sup>You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us." <sup>4</sup>When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, <sup>5</sup>you

shall make this response before the Lord your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, 7we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me." You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm for the Day

Psalm 100



En - ter God's gates with thanks-giv-ing.



A: <sup>1</sup>Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all you lands! <sup>2</sup>Serve the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence | with a song.

C: <sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD is God, our maker to whom | we belong; we are God's people and the sheep | of God's pasture.

#### Refrain:

- A: <sup>4</sup>Enter the gates of the LORD with thanksgiving and the | courts with praise; give thanks and bless God's | holy name.
- C: <sup>5</sup>Good indeed is the LORD, whose steadfast love is | everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from | age to age.

#### Refrain:

Second Reading:

Philippians 4:4-9

Paul urges the Christians at Philippi to rejoice, to be thankful, and to dwell on everything worthy of praise.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

L: The word of the Lord.

#### C: Thanks be to God.

Anthem: "A Song of Thanksgiving"

Lord, to whom shall we go?

John Ferguson

life.

Lord! You have been our refuge from one generation to another.
Your love never ceases, Your mercies never end.
For You are good, O Lord. Your steadfast love endures forever.
Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices.
Who wondrous things has done in whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms, has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
You have been our refuge from one generation to another. Amen.

Chancel Choir

#### Alleluia



You have the words of e-ter-nal

## Gospel Acclamation

P: The holy gospel according to St. John, the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading

John 6:25-35

The day after he multiplies bread to feed five thousand people, Jesus is pursued by the crowds clamoring for more bread. Recalling the image of manna in the wilderness, Jesus promises to provide the true bread from heaven that will never fail. Jesus himself is that bread of life.

<sup>25</sup>When [the disciples] found [Jesus] on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup>Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." <sup>28</sup>Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." 30\$0 they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? 31 Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' " 32Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. 33For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." 34They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." 35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

[Sit]

Sermon: "Give Thanks"

Pastor Liz Frey

[Stand]

Prayers of Intercession Each petition ends:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Prayer Response (sung by all)



# + Meal +

When we celebrate communion we remember that Jesus died for us and we experience God's love and forgiveness. As we eat the bread and wine Christ is present with us.

#### Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

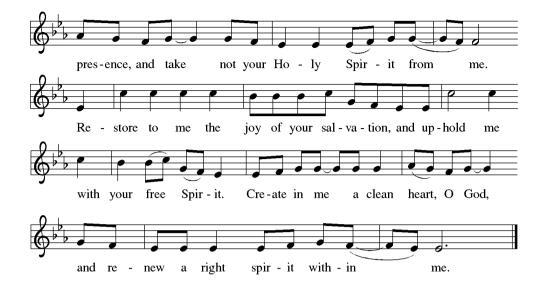
[Sit]

# Offering

Optional giving methods: Use the Give+ app on your mobile device • Use the Giving Station in the Gathering Space • Text an amount to 717-963-2281 (be sure to use a "\$") • Use the "DONATE" button on our website and e-blasts

Worship Witness: (Please sign booklet and return to center aisle.) [Stand]





## Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray. God our creator,

C: you give us all we are, all we have, all we bring, and all we need. Draw us together around your table with all your saints on earth and in your eternal home. Let us eat and drink your promise of new life, that we might be your promise to the world, spoken in Jesus' name. Amen.

# Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

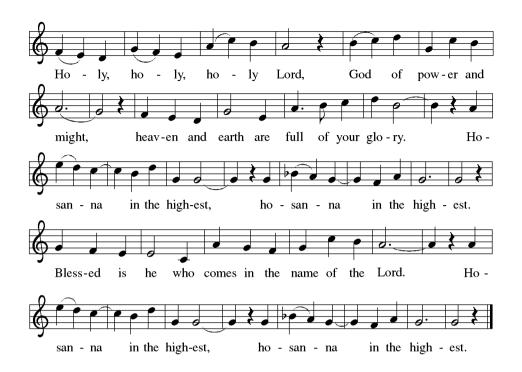
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## **Proper Preface**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth...

...Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

## The Lord's Prayer

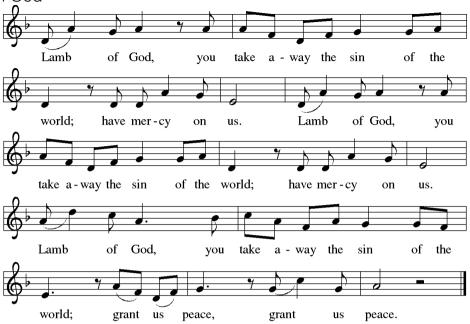
C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is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

#### Invitation to Communion

P: Come to the banquet that has no end!

C: Thanks be to God.

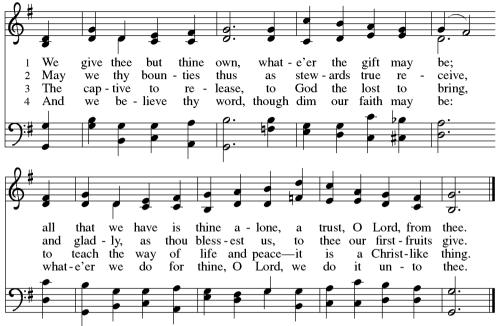
## Lamb of God



# Distribution of Holy Communion

We invite all Christians to the Lord's Table to celebrate the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament. Communion is by intinction. You will receive a wafer. Dip it in the chalice of wine before consuming. You may then return to your seat or come to the altar rail for prayer. Children and adults who aren't communing may come forward to receive a blessing. As a gesture of hospitality, we use dealcoholized wine (less than .5% alcohol). In addition, we offer gluten-free wafers, available upon request – please ask at the time of communion.

#### Hymn No. 686



Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt. Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, Cantica Lauda, 1850

[Stand]

## Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

## C: Amen.

## Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray. We thank you, God our host, for inviting us here to taste the future when you will feed all the hungry at your table. Keep this hope alive in us and in our communities, so that we might bring hope to a suffering world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior.

## C: Amen.

# + Sending +

We have heard the Word of God, offered our gifts, and been fed at the table. Now we are sent out, strengthened by the Holy Spirit to be God's people in the world.

## Blessing

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

## C: Amen.



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt. Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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#### Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Set your hope on Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Thanksgiving" (Thanksgiving Suite)

Charles Callahan

1. Kremser 2. Nun Danket Alle God

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# worship leaders

Presiding Minister: The Rev. John H. Brock

Preacher: The Rev. Elizabeth E. Frey

Proclamation Reader: The Rev. Dr. Jack M. Horner

Assisting Minister: Chris Mirocco

Lector: Nancy Martin Crucifer: Tyler Koch Soundboard: Jay Killian

Greeters: Jane Killian (head greeter)

**Ushers:** Craig Erdman, Bob Foster (head ushers), Ints Abolins, Albert Amico, Daniel Drawbaugh, Mitzi Jones, Steve Kauffman, Leora Kirkpatrick, Carol Lundquist, Dave Maser, Robert and Barbara Bark, Jamey Pfaff, William Walters, Charlie

Dave Maser, Robert and Barbara Park, Jamey Pfaff, William Walters, Charlie

Brophy, Sarah and Parker Lobaugh.

Altar Care: Barbara Kriebel

United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.