

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

LIGHT OF CHRIST CHINESE LUTHERAN MISSION

9733 Olive Boulevard - Olivette, MO 63132 - (314) 993-2394

THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP



THANKSGIVING DAY

NOVEMBER 23, 2023

Prelude & Ringing of the Church Bells

Stand

Call to Worship

P Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise;

C Be thankful unto Him and bless His name.

Hymn - Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

LSB 892



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; Raise the song of har-vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, Fruit un - to His praise to yield;
3 For the Lord, our God, shall come And shall take His 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;
Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, Un - to joy or sor - row grown.
From His field shall in that day All of - fens - es purge a - way,
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.
First the blade and then the ear, Then the full corn shall ap - pear.
Give His an - gels charge at last In the fire the tares to cast,
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.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we Whole - some grain and pure may be.
But the fruit - ful ears to store In His gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come with all Thine an - gels, come, Raise the glo - rious har - vest home.

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Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession of Sins and Declaration of Grace

C We confess, almighty God, that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have taken for granted our manifold blessings. We have been slow to offer thanks and often blind to the simple gifts that so enhance our lives. We ask Your forgiveness for the sake of our greatest gift, Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, whose atoning work on earth has given us pilgrims on earth a sure and certain home in heaven.

P By God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.

C Amen.



Hymn of Praise - We Praise You, O God

LSB 785



1 We praise You, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship You, God of our fa - thers, we bless You;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



In grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
Through tri - al and tem - pest our guide You have been.
And glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore You, we kneel and a - dore You;
When per - ils o'er - take us, You will not for - sake us,
With You, Lord, be - side us, Your strong arm will guide us.



We bless Your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.
And with Your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
To You, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

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Collect for Thanksgiving

P Let us pray. Almighty God, whose mercies are new every morning and whose goodness, though undeserved, still abundantly provides for all our wants of body and soul, grant us, we humbly pray, 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, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Anthem – **For the Fruit of All Creation** (*Fred Pratt Green/Hal H. Hopson*)

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.

For His gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,

Future need in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done.

In the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done.

In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,

In the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,

Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 8:1-10

The Lord your God is bringing you into a good land.

¹“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. ²And 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. ³And 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. ⁴Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty years. ⁵Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you.

⁶So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him.

⁷For 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, ⁸a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹a 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. ¹⁰And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 107:1-3, 33-37

Congregation's portions sung to the tune of the Doxology!

P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

C Oh, thank the Lord, whose goodness sure
And steadfast love fore'er endure.

P Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

C He gathers us, where'er we go,
And saves us from the fearsome foe.

P Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.

C Oh, thank the Lord, whose goodness sure
And steadfast love fore'er endure.

P He turns rivers into a desert, springs of water into thirsty ground, a fruitful land into a salty waste, because of the evil of its inhabitants. He turns a desert into pools of water, a parched land into springs of water. And there he lets the hungry dwell, and they establish a city to live in; they sow fields and plant vineyards and get a fruitful yield.

C **God reaches down, His own to bless
With bounteous gifts of righteousness.**

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Epistle

Philippians 4:6-20

Let your requests be known to God.

⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, 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. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me — practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰I 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. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I 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. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

¹⁴Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. ¹⁵And 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.

¹⁶Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. ¹⁷Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit.

¹⁸I 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. ¹⁹And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem – **Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven** (*Henry F. Lyte, arr. James Kirkby*)

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; to the throne thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore God's praises sing;
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King. Praise the everlasting King.

Praise the Lord for grace and favor to all people in distress;
Praise God still the same as ever, slow to chide and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious now God's faithfulness, glorious now God's faithfulness.

Angels, in the heights adoring, you behold God face to face;
Saints triumphant, now adoring, gathered in from ev'ry race.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace. Praise with us the God of grace!

Stand

Holy Gospel

Luke 17:11-19

Healing of the ten lepers.

¹¹On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee.

¹²And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance ¹³and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." ¹⁴When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; ¹⁶and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan.

¹⁷Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? ¹⁸Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Confession of Faith - The First Article of the Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

P What does this mean?

C I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

Sit



Hymn - Now Thank We All Our God

LSB 895



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.

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Please Sit after the Sermon Text is Announced

Sermon

Our thank offerings are brought forward and placed on the altar as the hymn is sung

Hymn - Praise and Thanksgiving

LSB 789



1 Praise and thanks - giv - ing, Fa - ther, we of - fer For all things
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing Food for Your chil - dren, By Your wise



liv - ing, Cre - at - ed good: Har - vest of sown fields, Fruits of the
guid - ing Teach us to share One with an - oth - er, So that, re -



or - chard, Hay from the mown fields, Bloss - som and wood.
joic - ing With us, all oth - ers May know Your care.

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Stand

Prayers for our Nation

P: 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. Make us who come from many different nations with many different languages a united people. Defend our liberties, and give those whom we have entrusted with the authority of government the spirit of wisdom that there might be peace and justice in our land. Strengthen and protect those who serve in the armed forces of our country, giving them courage and loyalty and granting that in all things they may service honestly and without reproach. When times are prosperous, let our hearts be thankful; and in troubled times do not let our trust in You fail.

We sing:

LSB 965



1 God bless our na - tive land; Firm may she ev - er stand
2 So shall our prayers a - rise To God a - bove the skies;



Through storm and night. When the wild tem - pests rave, Rul - er of
On Him we wait. Thou who art ev - er nigh, Guard - ing with



wind and wave, Do Thou our coun - try save By Thy great might.
watch - ful eye, To Thee a - loud we cry: God save the state!

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Thanksgiving Litany

P O Holy Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

C for all Your blessed activities toward us we thank You.

P O heavenly Father, Creator:

For giving us the gift of life, for Your preservation and protection, for all Your blessings of providence,

C for the blessings of fertile land, for favorable weather and abundance, for medical science and care,

P for recovery from illness, for continual good health, and for every physical blessing:

C We thank You, heavenly Father.

P O holy Jesus, Redeemer:

For the gift of Your life,

C for the redemption from sin, for Your triumph over death,

P and for the hope of an everlasting life with You in heaven:

C We thank You, good Lord.

P O Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of our souls:

For giving us new life,

C for the blessings of Your Word, the Bible, for the awakening of life in
Baptism,

P for the forgiveness in Holy Communion, for the preaching of the Word,

C for the comfort of fellow Christians, for the encouragement of the promise
that faith brings,

P and for the power to meet and overcome death in Christ Jesus,

C We thank You, Holy Spirit.

P In thankfulness we come before You, mindful of Your many blessings, yet we
are bold to trust in Your love and promise as we pray in the name of Your
Son and as He has taught us:

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.

Benediction

P The grace of the Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C Amen.

Hymn - **Give Thanks to God** (*Tune: American the Beautiful*)

- 1 **Give thanks to God, for He is good; His mercy never ends.
He makes the earth spring forth with food; refreshing rain He sends.
Go, serve the Lord; give thanks to God whose blessings never cease.
Lord, stretch Your hand o'er all our land, that we may serve in peace.**

- 2 **Give thanks to God, for He is good. His only Son He gave
That all who would in Christ believe might know God's pow'r to save.
Go, serve the Lord; give thanks to God whose mercies never cease.
The Spirit's breath increase our faith, that we may serve in peace.**

- 3 **Give thanks to God, for He is good. The future opens wide,
And even to eternity God's mercies still abide.
Go, serve the Lord; give thanks to God whose mercies never cease.
Lord, lift Your face, shine forth Your grace, that we may serve in peace.**

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Silent Prayer

Sit

Announcements & Postlude

Acknowledgments

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THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL
AND THE THANKSGIVING DISPLAY
ARE GIVEN TO THE PRAISE AND
GLORY OF GOD IN THANKSGIVING
FOR HIS MANY BLESSINGS!

Upcoming Services:

The season of **Advent** begins the weekend of December 2-3, not this weekend. As we enter this season of *watching, waiting, and preparation*, don't neglect to take time for the special worship opportunities that will be offered at Immanuel, and encourage your friends and fellow members to attend, too!

Midweek Advent Worship will be held on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm on December 6, 13, and 20.

And make note of the special service times, especially the last two Sundays in December so you don't miss worship!

Serving Today:

Presiding Minister:

Preacher:

Organist:

Choir:

Elder on Duty:

Pastor Rory Karg

Vicar Davin Alberson

Paul Snyder

Member of the Immanuel Adult Choir

Todd Mirly



Celebrating Thanksgiving

In the year 1668, with the appointment of November 25th as Thanksgiving Day, these words were written into the Plymouth Colony records: "It has pleased God in some comfortable measure, to bless us in the fruits of the earth."

In 1789, George Washington made the first national thanksgiving proclamation: "Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly implore His protection, aid and favor ...

... Now, therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these states to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the Beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be that we may then all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of this country, and for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us."

During his term of office as president, Theodore Roosevelt said in a Thanksgiving Day observance, "Once again the season of the year has come when, in accordance with the custom of our forefathers for generations past, we are called upon to give praise and thanksgiving to God. Our natural resources are abundant, and we have been endowed with adequate knowledge to make good use of these resources. Ours is the opportunity as free people to develop to the fullest extent all our powers of body, of mind, and of that which stands above both body and mind – of character. Much has been given us from on high, and much will rightly be expected in return."

While Thanksgiving Day has been set aside as a national (or secular) holiday, we, as God's people, know the true reason for giving thanks. We remember with believing hearts the marvels God has done for His people. To thank God is to acknowledge that who we are and what we have is His doing, not our own. So Moses cautions the people of Israel: "When you enter and possess the land the Lord promised your forefathers, remember how the Lord God led you in the desert these 40 years, remember the testing, remember the manna, ...remember, remember. Those who do not remember cannot offer thanks." Our thanksgiving, which declares God the source of all gifts, leads others to the knowledge of the truth. Our breaking of the bread proclaims the death of Christ for the life of the world. Our thanksgiving over the cup proclaims the bitter cup the Savior drank and the cup of salvation that is ours now and forever, when our thanksgivings will echo through the streets of the New Jerusalem.