



THANKSGIVING
NOVEMBER 25, 2021

SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4660 West 94th Street, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

(708) 423-1040
Pastor John Moeller

www.stpauloaklawn.org
Director of Music Ruth Sievers

As We Gather

A Day of National Thanksgiving is an honored tradition in this nation. But thankfulness to God is something that transcends national borders and the boundaries of time. God's people are always thankful people, because they know what great things He has done and continues to do for them. In Martin Luther's explanation of the First Article of the Creed, he states that in response to God's great gifts, it is the Christian's "duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him." Our worship is one way through which we carry out that joyful duty.

Violin Prelude

"Largo from Sonata #3 in C Major"

J. S. Bach

Opening Hymn

"Come, Ye Thankful People Come"

#892

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| <p>1 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.</p> <p>2 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.</p> | <p>3 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.</p> <p>4 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.</p> |
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Invocation

- P** In the name of God the Father,
C **who created us,**
P in the name of God ✠ the Son,
C **who by His blood has redeemed us,**
P and in the name of God the Holy Spirit,
C **who made our bodies to be His holy temple, and gives us faith to see and believe God's grace at work in our lives. Amen.**

Opening Sentences

Psalm 104:24, 27–28, 30, 33

- P** O LORD, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom have You made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures.
- C** **These all look to You, to give them their food in due season.**
- P** When You give it to them, they gather it up;
- C** **when You open Your hand, they are filled with good things.**

P When You send forth Your Spirit, they are created, and You renew the face of the ground.

C **I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;**

P I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

Confession and Absolution

1 Timothy 2:1, 4

P As we gather in this land on Thanksgiving, we confess to God how we struggle to be thankful with our thoughts, words, and actions.

We pause to remember and confess our sins before Almighty God...

P Creator God, You made Adam and Eve in Your image and placed them in the Garden of Eden, giving them dominion over every living thing. But in their rebellion, they were banished from the garden. Though we have been re-created through the waters of Baptism, our rebellious sinful nature still leads us away from Your way. Forgive us, Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Redeeming God, You freed the children of Israel from slavery to Egypt and led them to the Promised Land. You have freed us from our slavery to sin, yet like the Israelites, we struggle to live in that freedom and instead fall back into being slaves to our sinful nature. Forgive us, Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Gracious Lord, You led our forefathers to this land, where they could enjoy being able to worship You freely. As we live here today, there are times when we do not choose to enjoy this freedom. We neglect Your Word and Your Sacraments, the Means by which You grant us Your grace. Forgive us, Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P God's grace is at work among us as we gather this day. Because of Jesus, God graciously forgives us all our sins. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever. 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.

C **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

Psalm

Psalm 67:1 – 7; antiphon V. 1

P May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us,

C **that Your way may be known on earth, Your saving power among all nations.**

P Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!

C **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for You judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.**

P Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!

C **The earth has yielded its increase;**

P God, our God, shall bless us.

C **God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear Him!**

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.

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us.

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have graciously guided Your people to lands unseen in the past and have strengthened and prospered them. We thank You for giving us life in our nation. As you have led, guided, and provided for Your people throughout history, we ask You to graciously do that for us as well; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

✠ Remember the Lord Your God ✠

Deuteronomy 8:1-10

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.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem of Praise Solo

“Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart”

H. Smith

Epistle

✠ Pray for All People ✠

1 Timothy 2:1-4

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.

³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

✠ Jesus Cleanses Ten Lepers ✠

Luke 17:11-19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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

P Confessing faith and expressing thanks are completely linked together. In the Small Catechism, Martin Luther underscored the theme of thankfulness in his explanation of the First Article of the Creed, which focuses on God the Creator. Together we say:

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

P What does this mean? 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.

C For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

P 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.

C For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

P 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.

C For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

Sermon Hymn

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

#789

1 Praise and thanksgiving,
 Father, we offer
 For all things living,
 Created good:
 Harvest of sown fields,
 Fruits of the orchard,
 Hay from the mown fields,
 Blossom and wood.

2 Bless, Lord, the labor
 We bring to serve You
 That with our neighbor
 We may be fed.
 Sowing or tilling,

We would work with You,
 Harvesting, milling
 For daily bread.

3 Father, providing
 Food for Your children,
 By Your wise guiding
 Teach us to share
 One with another,
 So that, rejoicing
 With us, all others
 May know Your care.

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Sermon

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
Thank You, Lord,
- C** **for food, health, clothing, and our homes.**
- P** Thank You, Lord,
- C** **for the many freedoms we enjoy in this land.**
- P** Thank You, Lord,
- C** **for leaders, teachers, preachers, family, and friends.**
- P** Thank You, Lord,
- C** **for the gifts You give to Your Church,**
- P** Thank You, Lord,
- C** **for Baptism, the Lord's Supper, forgiveness, grace, hope, and Your Word.**

We pause in silence for personal thanksgiving to God...

- P** Thank You, Lord, for Jesus Christ, Your only Son, through whom You give us the gifts of forgiveness and eternal life in Your kingdom.
- C** **Thanks be to God. Amen!**

Offering—*may be left in the offering plates near the doors as you leave. Those worshipping at home may continue to mail or drop off offerings at the church office, and on-line giving is available to everyone on our website at www.stpauloaklawn.org. For information about regular electronic giving, please contact the church office.*

Offertory Meditation

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

- 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 Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

The Lord's Prayer

- P** Hear us now as we pray together as our Lord taught us...
- C** **Our Father who art in heaven...**

Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

✠ DISTRIBUTION of the SACRAMENT ✠

(Piano / Violin selections during Communion Distribution)

“For the Fruits of His Creation”
“We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator”
“Now Thank We All Our God”

Communion Blessing

- P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

Closing Prayer

Psalm 106:1

- P** Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
C **for His steadfast love endures forever!**
P We thank You, Lord God, for the heavenly blessings we have now received in this Meal of Your Son’s body and blood, which You have given us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of our sins. Lead us by Your Spirit to live lives of thankfulness in all we do. And now as we go from here, empower us to share Your saving truth to the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Benediction

Psalm 67:1; Numbers 6:24-26

- P** May God be gracious to us and bless us
C **and make His face to shine upon us.**
P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C Amen.

Closing Hymn

“Now Thank We All Our God”

#895

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| 1 | 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. | 2 | 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! |
|---|--|---|---|

△3 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.

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Postlude

“Now Thank We All Our God”

G. Kaufmann



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND THANKS

Violinist: Ellie Sievers

Vocalist: Bill Leise

Lector: Louis Frank

Altar Care: Sandy Barry

Altar Flowers: From Linda Kosary in honor of Walt's Birthday 11/24

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Announcements & Notes:

Today is the last Sunday that the Ladies' Guild Christmas Card sale will be available, both before and after service. We appreciate your support of the work of our Ladies Guild and their service to the church.

Wednesday evening our midweek Advent services begin at 7:00 PM. We encourage you to come early and enjoy the supper and fellowship in our gym starting at 5:30, our "hymn Sing" before service in church at about 6:40, and worship at 7:00. This year's theme is "Await God's Gifts."

AFTER next Wednesday's service we invite you to spend a little extra time to help put up some of the Christmas decorations in our sanctuary—garland and wreathes. The tree will come soon after... If you would also like to help with the outside lights, please talk with George Oberg.

St. Paul's "Faith in Action" group is continuing to help collect new (unwrapped) toys and outerwear for the Worth Township Toy & Coat drive for children infants through age 14. The last day to drop off is December 7th.

Please pick up your offering envelopes for 2022 in the narthex under the "Holy Trinity" mural. Next to them you'll find a table with lots of "Thrivent 'Live Generously'" tee-shirts. Please help yourselves! Please also take copies of this year's Advent Daily Devotion books for yourself or friends.

***Please invite family and friends to join you anytime at St. Paul,
but especially for our special holiday services!***

Please pray for these members of our St. Paul family:

Ruth Diver	Cathy Gleason
Julie & Larry Gurga	Helen Bonder
Janice Przybycien	Kevin Hickey
Mary Ann Colander	Art Hornburg
Melva Smith	Laverne Abraham
Carol Small	Mike Degidio
Norma Silinski	Beverly Sellers
Lenore Curran	Betty Beegle
Delphine Cherry	Ron Klingensmith
Louis Frank	Deb Skopec
Herta Iversen	Loretta Frank
Jane & Freddie Giacobbe	Marge Rochlitz
Ron Hickey	Shirley Smulkis
Ingrid Lesko	Katherine Hice
Gloria Meyer	Jan Briede
Delores Stegemann	Connie Braun
Kurt Seehofer	The Polezoes Family
Lincoln & Parker Alex	Patricia Murdoch
Gloria Crook	Lois Kaminske
Patty Sellers	Janet Varnagis
Dawn McNicholas	

Please pray for these friends and family of our members:

Heather & Josh Turro	Carolyn Moeller
Eugene Marcinkowski	Roberta & Carlos Owens
Denise DeLaurentis	Dorothy Kroll
Anthony Krcelic, Jr.	Eric Kessling
Bob Hessert	Georgiana Easton
Jackie Plichta	Patricia Paulsen
Ken Kruckow	Janet Trierweiler
Alan Hecke	Kim Lamberth
Matt Favero	Sandra Wilson
Rev. Bob Mitchell	Al Silinski
Pam Palhegyi	Carol Milazzo
Rich Huscher	The Lamberth Family
Jerry Gross	Brenda Gurgel
Gloria Folsom	Autumn Kessling
Elizabeth Hoefler	Alan Iversen
Ron Lunt	Christopher Kosary
Sandy Plath	Iris McCoy
Shirley Demyres	Raquel Rameriz
Nick & Bridget DeAngelo	Henry Bonder
Kim & Shawn Skelton, Sr.	Kyle Hughes
Elaine Hoffstetter	Fred Raddatz
Selma & John Carmichael	Allyson Seehofer
Bernadette & Rich Trusk	Dana Kahn
Donald Hakanson	Carl Hoppe
Paul Noffke	Sue Sortino
Pam Brown	Lisa Sanders
Shawn Harland	Ann Herold
Barb Potter	Wayne Volk
Charley Heitz	Sharon Bryant
Doris Potts	Brad Benfield
Doreen Holford	Janice Hernandez
Donna Santi	Judy Collins
Paul Sowa	Maryann Krieg (Wilke)
Jimmy Kennedy, Jr.	Knox Christensen
Cathy Becker	Lois Kiefer
George Lilja	Al Zirbel
Donna Patri	Skip Sorensen
Joe Thomas	Patrick Pasqua Sr.
Logan Bliss	Debbie Guarascio
Phyllis Hicks	Carol Duncan
Jerry Koenig	Justin & Ashley Fasel
Nora Maculitis	Sandra Mitchell & Fam.
Beckham Klintworth	

Please let the church office know when your need for our congregational prayers is over (708) 423-1040.



Holiday Worship and Fellowship

Every Sunday Worship is at 9:00 AM.

Thanksgiving Worship: Wednesday, November 24th
at 7:00 PM.

Advent Midweek Services: December 1st, 8th, and 15th
at 7:00 PM.

- During Advent, a supper will be served each Wednesday evening in our gym / Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:30.
- At about 6:40 we'll move into the church sanctuary to sing a few favorite hymns.
- Our Advent worship services will begin at 7:00 PM.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: Dec. 24th, 7:00 PM.

Christmas Morning: Dec. 25th, 9:00 AM.

New Year's Eve: 7:00 PM.

Special Notes:

- *There will be no services on Wednesday, December 22nd or 29th.*
- *Our regular 6:00 PM Wednesday evening services will resume on January 5th.*